

The Leader.

A POLITICAL AND LITERARY REVIEW.

"The one Idea which History exhibits as evermore developing itself into greater distinctness is the Idea of Humanity—the noble endeavour to throw down all the barriers erected between men by prejudice and one-sided views; and, by setting aside the distinctions of Religion, Country, and Colour, to treat the whole Human race as one brotherhood, having one great object—the free development of our spiritual nature."—*Humboldt's Cosmos.*

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Review of the Week.

NO insurance office would grant an insurance for the continuance of peace. The feeble guarantees that appeared to exist at the conclusion of the Russian war have become still feebler, and it is clear that intrigues of the very lowest order have so mingled in the administration of Europe, that an accident may embroil the whole Continent, and this country with it. The *Constitutionnel* has been permitted to launch at this country the most intelligible invectives. It pretends that the change of Ministry in Constantinople, which has now been completed by the accession of Reschid Pacha to power, is no defeat for the counsels of France, because that Minister must listen to reason! That is to say, M. TROUVENEL and his superiors at home intended to persevere in urging their policy upon the Turkish Government, *coûte que coûte*. That policy is now avowed. France, according to the *Constitutionnel*, upholds the latest proposal of Russia, which is to compromise the difference between herself and the Western Powers, and to strike a line between the two Bosphoruses. What objection can there be to such a proposal? asks the *Constitutionnel*, forgetting that, in a question of the kind, no one of two allies ought to depart from the ground originally taken up, and, without the other, to accept a compromise. "The French press," says the *Constitutionnel*, by way of boast, "has shown itself unanimous in condemning the pretensions which, in their interested connivance, the Governments of Austria and England arrogate to themselves." This is the view which the organ of the French Ministry puts forth. The *Siecle*, indeed, endeavours to counteract this counsel. It asserts that despatches have passed between the two Governments of France and England, which have removed any want of concord. But whose organ is the *Siecle*? It is the tolerated representative of the *Jésuite* section of the BONAPARTE family, it is a kind of intruder in the family circle of the press, permitted out of consideration for our "dear Uncle," and we may accept as authentic the declaration of the *Constitutionnel*, that "those who oppose themselves to new conferences create the sole and true obstacle to the execution of the treaty." The disclaimer of the *Moniteur* is more important—it disavows the *Constitutionnel* by name; but it admits that there is a difference between France and England; it so far endorses

the disavowed *Constitutionnel*; and, at all events, the highest authority has permitted the *Constitutionnel*, which it could so easily gag and crush—a far more effectual course than a formal disclaimer.

There is no sign that our Ministers give way. RESCHID PACHA, as we have said, has acceded to power, and the fact shows that the advice of Lord STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE prevails in Constantinople. The circumstances have placed us in a painful dependence upon the fidelity of Austria, and Austria is not likely to fulfil the expectation without being paid for it. At present she has her troops in the Principalities, because Turkey and England wish it; some day, perhaps, she may keep them there because France wishes it; some say, because it is the wish of Austria.

LORD PALMERSTON throws no light upon these subjects. In his great Manchester demonstration, his words are the words of peace, but his tone is the tone of mistrust. In the late war, his object, he says, was to prevent war, for it is only by repelling the approach of insult and the appearance of wrong that a great country can guard its peace. This explanation renders one of his statements more intelligible than otherwise it would be. "I hope and believe," he says, "that peace will continue in Europe;" but he says it with an "if," and afterwards he says, "I trust that Power which brought upon itself the hostility of all Europe, by forgetfulness of international rights and duties, will observe the treaty and fulfil it with faithfulness," and then no doubt peace will be of "long duration." "I hope," says the Emperor ALEXANDER NICOLAIEWITCH to General LUDERS, in releasing him from his present duties, "I hope that if circumstances give me occasion to recal you to employment before the expiration of that period, you will resume your duties with the same zeal and alacrity which have ever signalized your military career!" What is "that period?" One year!

Do we count any longer upon France for protecting this precarious peace? How can we do so, when the official representative of our ally is now residing close to the CZAR who writes thus to General LUDERS, and when the whole of the clique who helped the Emperor NAPOLEON to the throne, and administer in his name, are trying to wean him from the English alliance, and to drag him into a Russian alliance, because the Russian Emperor is giving to some of them a valuable contract for the making of railways? No, not for

the making of railways. What, indeed, does Count de MONSY care for railways running between St. Petersburg and Ekaterinoslav? But there is another thing which many of the concessionaries of the railway contract care much about, and that is scrip. The ultimate result of the scrip, the ultimate accession of railways to Russia, the ultimate profits to the ultimate buyers—what does all that matter? As little does it matter to the old woman at the corner of the street what becomes of the apples when once she has sold them. The question for the concessionaries is, what profits they can make in the transfer stage of the business. There is a property, nominally, of forty millions in the market, upon which they will have agency commission, and for that agency commission the statesmen of France 'go in' for the Russian lines.

We have had a plentiful allowance of autumnal public meetings. The member of Parliament is loose just now, and is available for local association. LORD PALMERSTON has accordingly 'done' three important local bodies in Manchester at the meeting which we have already mentioned. He visited Peel Park and Salford, Manchester Town Hall and Mr. Mayor, the Free Trade Hall and the Mechanics' Institute. With his gay and charming vivacity, he delighted mayor, manufacturers, burghers, and working men. No man is more perfectly free and easy, at the same time that there is something in his upright carriage and the glances of his eye which prevents the most presumptuous from forgetting that they have among them a real nobleman. This is delightful. He places the most homely on a level with himself, but does not descend to the level of the homely. He told the people of Manchester nothing, in so emphatic a manner that they came away wiser than they went; and if there is a man popular in Manchester at the present moment it is PALMERSTON.

The Crimean heroes stationed near the Scotch capital have had their entertainment from the Lord Provost and all the notables of the place, and the modern Athens shines amongst the hosts of the heroes. Part of the trade of the place is scholastic; moral philosophy is peculiarly obtainable in that market, and the orations were, necessarily, quite fit to pass an examination. Ladies, too, graced the festival with their presence; and facts were brought forth by Colonel HAMLEY, Sir JOHN McNEILL, and others, which really contributed to the history of the Crimea.

Lord SHAPPEBURY has been entertaining his workpeople in a harvest home, none the worse because he took them to church; and the service was none the worse because they marched to it to the sound of music.

To descend, the Board of Works has been presenting to Sir BENJAMIN HALL an inadmissible proposition—a plan of sewage inconsistent with the Act of Parliament, and frightful to Erith, who has by deputation protested. The Board, in fact, proposes to discharge the drainage of London right into the face of Erith!

ROBSON, the Crystal Palace swindler, has been convicted and sentenced to twenty years' transportation. He was sketching likenesses while the evidence was convicting him, and he stepped out with a jaunty air to have his head cropped.

CHARPENTIER, too, has been seized, for the grasp of the offended ROTHSCHILD can reach even into the heart of the American Republic.

The North-Western Railway has been offending against the laws of life, this time, however, with some excuse. The collision of an express and a broken-down coal train proved, experimentally, that a new plan which the company has established, of signals all along the line, is not quite sufficient to prevent accidents. A little change of the system—probably checking each train from passing a signal-post until the train before it should have passed two signal-posts—would be effectual.

We look abroad again to those far lands which will not readily interfere with our European politics. In the United States, we have in the accession of Indiana, a new guarantee of BUCHANAN'S election. At the Cape of Good Hope Sir GEORGE GREY has gone to the frontier, in the hopes of subduing the Kafirs by diplomacy. But even he will find the Black man too obstinate and intractable for his purpose. From Madeira they report a clean bill of health, and they wish us, most emphatically, to understand that the island is as salubrious and more cleanly than ever, and its wine as excellent as ever. A panic fear may prevent those invalids, to whom the climate is a blessing, from conferring on the islanders that visit which insures to them a livelihood in ministering to the visitors' wants. And a mere delusion about the vine produce may prevent that demand for Madeira which, while adding a variety to the wine-table, will add a mite to the narrow means of the Madeirans.

GUY FAWKES' DAY:

BIGOTRY REPROVED FROM THE MANSION HOUSE.

A FINE sermon on tolerance was preached last Saturday, and again on Monday, at the Mansion House, by our Israelitish Lord Mayor. On the first of those days, Mr. William John O'Connell, kinsman of the late Daniel O'Connell, attended at the justice room, and, after some preliminary observations, said:—

"I do not know whether your Lordship has ever witnessed a most foolish exhibition which generally takes place in this country on the 5th of November. If the persons who indulge in such absurdity were to confine themselves to the representation of Guy Fawkes, or any miserable diabolical conspirator of that description, I certainly should not have troubled your Lordship; but, when I witnessed on the 5th of November last the effigy of a Catholic bishop with his pontificalibus, with a large cross upon his back, paraded about the town in the most insulting manner, I consider that that is an indignity to those loyal subjects of her Majesty who profess the Catholic religion, and I am perfectly satisfied that the period has now arrived when bigotry and intolerance should be for ever buried in the trenches before Sebastopol, where it is known that the Protestants, the Presbyterians, and the Catholics, were fighting with the most indomitable bravery foot to foot and shoulder to shoulder, and that their blood flowed in the same stream to uphold the honour and glory of this great country, and to do away for ever with all sectarian differences. The bravery exhibited by the Catholic soldiers at the Alma and Inkerman, with their Protestant brethren, never can be forgotten. His Royal Highness the chivalrous Duke of Cambridge witnessed their courage and shared their dangers, and, I am perfectly sure, would highly disapprove any insult being offered to their religion. His Excellency the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, than whom a more dignified or high-minded Englishman never entered the portals of the Castle of Dublin, or represented Majesty in my native land, spoke of them in the most liberal and handsome manner at the grand display the other day in Dublin, when a dinner was given to four thousand Crimean heroes, irrespective of religious consideration, by the Protestants and the Catholics of the Irish metropolis."

The speaker then alluded to the Catholic soldiers

of France rushing to the assistance of our troops at Inkerman, and proceeded:—

"My Lord, as you belong to neither denomination of creeds that I have mentioned, I earnestly appeal to your lordship to throw out a suggestion which I have no doubt will be taken up by the police authorities and the magistrates generally of this great and powerful metropolis, and that an end will be put to this ridiculous and barbarous exhibition—at least that portion of it that puts forward the effigy of a Catholic bishop. I thank your lordship for the kind indulgence which you have shown to me upon this occasion. I have read with great satisfaction your admirable decisions during your year of office, and I must be permitted to say, without flattery or egotism, that if the ashes of the great Lycurgus could be collected from the briny waves and formed into man again, and were to preside in the chair which your Lordship so worthily and so honourably occupies, he could not have acted with greater ability or more decided impartiality than have characterized the whole of your actions during your Mayoralty."

A considerable amount of applause followed the conclusion of Mr. O'Connell's speech; and, when this had subsided, the Lord Mayor, who was sensibly moved, and who received Mr. O'Connell with marked courtesy, replied:—

"I thank you for the compliment you have just paid me. I may say that it has been my anxious desire, and I believe it is the desire of every magistrate of this metropolis, so to act in the administration of justice as that our conduct may merit public approbation. With regard to the more immediate subject of your appeal to me, it is one that depends more upon public taste and public feeling than upon any jurisdiction I can exercise. It is very difficult in any country to get rid of traditional customs. The annual exhibition of the effigy of Guy Fawkes has come down to us from the time of James I., when party feeling between Catholic and Protestants ran very high, and the conspiracy to blow up the Houses of Parliament has always been held by historians to have been a Roman Catholic conspiracy. The burning of London in the year 1666 was attributed to the same source, and it is only recently, through the exertions of the present City Solicitor, that the libellous inscription upon the Monument on Fish-street-hill, attributing the fire of London to the Roman Catholics, was by order of the Court of Common Council erased. We cannot, however, conceal from ourselves that all our party struggles at almost every period have been quickened by feelings arising out of a presumed Catholic or Protestant ascendancy. I, however, regret extremely that the exhibition of Guy Fawkes, instead of being a mere memorial of a treasonable plot, should have lately assumed the offensive form of which you so justly complain; that the figure, instead of being the figure of an abominable conspirator, Guy Fawkes, should be exhibited as an individual dressed in the habiliments of a Roman Catholic ecclesiastic, bearing on his breast the emblem which all Christians are bound to honour and to worship. Such conduct must be obnoxious to every one, and most offensive and painful to members of the Roman Catholic communion. I lament that any custom should be kept alive in our times, even among boys, calculated to give pain to any single individual. I hope, therefore, that your representation will be conveyed through the public press, and that it may have the effect of modifying this annual exhibition, if it does not altogether get rid of it. If this cannot be accomplished, let us, at all events, have a Guy Fawkes whom boys should only recollect as a wicked traitor who sought to blow up the King and Parliament, and not taught to mix up with it anything calculated to wound the feelings of their Roman Catholic fellow-subjects. How desirable it is that we should all act together upon a comprehensive principle, that we should not be prone to condemn whole communities on account of the faults or the frailties of a few! I venture to say, as you have alluded to the subject of the French and of the Irish Catholics and Protestants all fighting side by side, as I trust they always will, for the honour and glory of their common country, that you might have included the Jews. There are a considerable number of Jewish soldiers in the French army. In France, there is a conscription to which all persons are liable. The army is not composed of volunteers as it is in this country, but every one is there liable to military service. Of late years, there have been a great many Jews in the ranks of the French army. A few days ago, I had transmitted to me from Constantinople an account of a special funeral service, which was attended by the Turkish and French authorities and held in one of the synagogues at Constantinople, in honour of the French Jewish soldiers who had fallen during the campaign in the Crimea. Now, I hope that, whatever the religious community to which we belong, we shall ever be united in one common feeling of loyalty to our country, and of attachment to the Government that protects us. We ought to try to promote the public good by extending kindly and benevolent feelings towards each other, and to avoid anything which may wound the susceptibilities, or ridicule the religious peculiarities of any class of our fellow-subjects; and if your representations have the effect of mitigating or reducing the nuisance of Guy Fawkes' day, I shall truly rejoice. I am sure that this representation will be conveyed to the public through the ordinary organs, and I trust that it may have the effect which you so ardently wish."

These observations also were loudly applauded, and Mr. O'Connell, after expressing his obligation for the kindness and courtesy of the Lord Mayor, bowed and withdrew.

Of course, these matters could not pass without arousing the ire of the bigots; and one of that large class presented himself on Monday, in the person of a Mr. Clark, and said he wished to answer some observations made by Mr. O'Connell, and calculated to affect the character of the boys and population of this kingdom." The Lord Mayor urged some objections to the justice room being turned into a debating club, but consented to hear Mr. Clark after the close of business. The gentleman heroically kept his post during the morning, and then again came forward, when the Lord Mayor said that, "if he (Mr. Clark) had been a little boy, and wanted to say something on behalf of Guy Fawkes, he could hear him," but that he must not attack the Roman Catholics. Mr. Clark then continued:—

"I wish to say that there was one point which Mr. O'Connell improperly omitted to touch upon; for your Lordship and all here must remember that, before the year 1850, nothing was exhibited by the boys and lads but the effigy of Guy Fawkes, and in that year the Roman Catholics insulted Protestant feeling, not only on the 5th of November, but daily, when the Roman Catholics took their stand in the face of the laws of the country and the proclamation of the Queen."

The Lord Mayor thought all this did not justify insulting the Roman Catholics. But the undaunted Mr. Clark, solicitous for the character of the boys, returned to the charge after this fashion:—

"Only a few days ago, I saw a placard in which it was stated that a new Catholic Bishop was to be consecrated by the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster and the Bishop of Southwark, and if the men and lads of this country take the trouble to read, and know there are no such bishops allowed by law, can you be surprised that they make it their business to vindicate the law which the law officers of the Crown neglect to do?"

The Lord Mayor thought Mr. Clark's argument tended to the justification of lynch law; and, after a little more discussion, the doughty champion of juvenile Protestantism left the scene of combat, his bestowing a knightly compliment to his opponent.

The 5th passed off without any very marked features. Some large Guyes were carried about as usual, and at night several bonfires were kindled, and there was much 'squibbing.' Some enterprising Protestants, having been driven by the police from the summit of Tower-hill—a favourite place for these autos-da-fe—adjourned to a piece of waste ground at the end of Farringdon-street, and there vindicated their religion with much warmth and brilliancy, undisturbed by misbelieving constables. It does not appear whether Mr. Clark was present; but as I doubt he was. Large crowds collected, and two boys and a woman were severely burnt by fireworks, in the honour of the Anglican Church. Some very riotous proceedings have taken place at Brighton, and several persons have been fined.

ACCIDENTS AND SUDDEN DEATHS.

A VERY alarming collision took place on Monday afternoon, on the London and North-Western Railway, about a mile and a half north of King's Langley. It is thus described in the daily papers:—"Between ten and four o'clock p.m., the engine of a coal train on its journey to London, became suddenly disabled and stopped near a place called Nash-mills, about midway between the stations of Boxmoor and King's Langley. The express, which was travelling up to town behind of the same line, at its usual high rate of speed, ran right into it while in this state of suspense, and in the collision the break van of the coal train was smashed to atoms, and the engine of the passenger train thrown off the line, but not overturned. The carriages of the passenger train were also injured, but not so seriously as might have been apprehended; a few of the buffers and axle guards were torn off or dislocated, and the couple of one carriage was crushed; but, strange to say, with the exception of the engine, no part of the train left the line of rails. The whole of the passengers immediately after the collision were naturally more or less in a state of alarm and excitement. Mr. Donaldson, the landlord of the Swan Inn, Hemel Hempstead, who was in the immediate vicinity at the time of the accident, and who, with others, proceeded at once to the spot to render what assistance he could, describes the pitiable condition of the travelling, especially the ladies, most of whom had been removed from the carriages and were lying, some on each side of the line, and some in an adjoining field, while others kept their seats or sat outside on the footboards of the carriages. Many of them were bleeding from the contused wounds they had sustained in the head and face by the collision, and the eyes of others were bruised and discoloured. Medical assistance was soon despatched to them. They were also under great obligations to Mr. Dickinson, the eminent paper-maker of Abbotshill, who resides in the immediate neighbourhood, for wine and other comforts which he caused to be distributed among them, and whose workmen lent their aid in the emergency. About a quarter past four o'clock, Mr. Stubb, the stationmaster at Watford, received a telegram

message apprising him of the collision, and he immediately sent thirty men to the spot, where they rendered assistance in clearing the up line. A train from Aylesbury arrived at the spot shortly after the collision, and to this the passengers by the express were transferred, and after a few hours' detention—unavoidable, perhaps, under the circumstances—conveyed to London, with the exception of three—a mechanic, who was seriously injured, and Lord and Lady Byron, who were travelling by the train, and who remained overnight at King's Langley, at the house of Dr. Solly. By eight o'clock the up line was in a state to admit of the resumption of the traffic, which, during the temporary interruption, was worked on the down line for a short distance under the usual precautions. An inquiry is being made into the cause.

Frederick Waters, a night policeman, about seventeen years of age, in the service of the Taff Vale Railway Company, was killed on Wednesday week by the up luggage train. He was on his way home to Stormstown; the luggage train was approaching, and he attempted to spring into the last truck but one, but lost his hold, and fell. Both trucks passed over his body, and nearly cut him in two.

The bodies of the thirteen men who lost their lives by the inundation at the Bryn Mally colliery on the 30th of September, having at length been recovered, an inquest has been opened, which stands adjourned.

Several porters at the Lime-street station of the London and North-Western Railway Company, were amusing themselves with feats of strength, when one of them, while in the act of lifting a bundle of steel bars on his shoulder, slipped and fell. The weight struck him on the neck close to the base of the skull, crushing him so severely that he died in twenty minutes.

An artisan at the chemical works near Carmarthen stopped over the cog-wheels of a steam engine which was in motion, to reach a hammer which had been left beyond the wheels. He was warned of the peril in which he placed himself, but replied that there was no danger. At that moment, however, the wheel caught his jacket, dragged him in, tore off one arm, and inflicted other injuries, from which he speedily died.

Pike, the fireman of the London and North-Western Railway, who was injured in the collision which occurred during the fog last Wednesday week (of which an account appeared in our previous issue), died on the evening Friday morning at the farmhouse to which he was taken. An inquest was held on the same day, and terminated in a verdict of Accidental Death. The evidence received went to show that, as originally stated, the coupling iron had broken, and that the guard or brakeman stationed on the train, not knowing what had occurred, owing to the fog, did not apply the break. He states that he perceived a slackening of speed (which was in fact owing to the carriages proceeding simply by their own momentum down the incline), but that he attributed this to the driver doing something to his engine. The driver was first made aware of the catastrophe by noticing the increased speed of his engine, although he had not put on any extra pressure. Looking back, he saw that the carriages were unattached. He kept on for about a mile and a quarter, when he stopped, in order that Pike, the fireman, might go back and signal the guard on the train. At that instant, the train struck the engine. The latter was not reversed. The driver called out to Pike that the train was upon them, and at the same moment he set his engine in motion; but the mischief was done. The engine was overturned; Oscar, the driver, was thrown over the boiler, and severely mangled; and Pike was mortally injured.—In the course of the evidence, Mr. McConnell, one of the superintendents on the line, explained that a recent improvement had been adopted by the London and North-Western Company for securing safety of travelling over their line. This is the establishment of a "special train telegraph," with signal stations every two miles. At each station, a policeman is on duty night and day, in whose watchbox there is a telegraph dial with a single needle. By inclining the needle to the left hand, the person in charge gives notice to the next station that a train has passed on to the two miles of road entrusted to his special care, while inclining it to the right hand shows that the train has passed off that portion of the line. There are in fact but two signals—"train on" and "train off;" but as it may happen, as in this case, that an accident occurs upon the two miles of road between the telegraph stations, the guards and breaksmen are instructed instantly to sever the "special train wire," which has the effect of placing the needle at each next station in an upright position. The policeman on duty at once becomes aware by this movement that something is wrong, and is immediately placed in a position to act according to circumstances. Several of the jury remarked that the system appears to be well calculated to prevent accident.

A fatal accident has occurred to a Mr. William Tyrer, an independent gentleman residing at Liverpool. Being troubled with sciatica, he determined on having a warm bath; but some time having elapsed without his appearing again, his housekeeper went into his room, and found him face downwards in the bath. He was quite dead, and had apparently fallen head foremost in an apoplectic fit. Several parts of his person were much scalded.—Another gentleman has since been drowned in the same way.

A serious casualty happened last Saturday to Mr. Bacon, the proprietor of the *Sussex Advertiser*, published at Lewes. Mr. Bacon was superintending the working of a new steam printing-press, when a portion of the machinery caught one of his feet, taking off the great-toe, and completely drawing out the nails of two or three of the other toes. Medical aid was immediately called in, and Mr. Bacon is progressing as favourably, under the circumstances, as could be desired.

Thomas Russell, a comedian, has died suddenly in the green room of the theatre at Great Yarmouth. It appeared that he had been in embarrassed circumstances, and had denied himself, to a great extent, the necessities of life.

Another railway accident has occurred through a defective coupling iron. This time the casualty happened on the Dundalk and Enniskillen Railway. Two waggons became detached from the carriages, and remained behind on the line (which is single) for the whole night. The consequence was that an up mail train from Dublin, travelling at the rate of thirty miles an hour, ran into the waggons. The shock was very great, but fortunately there were no passengers in the carriages, or serious loss of life might have been the consequence, as the waggons were dashed over the embankment, closely followed by the engine and the carriages attached. The train guard, driver, and stoker escaped unhurt; but the mail guard sustained severe injuries.

Some shocking injuries have resulted to a little boy about six years old from a foolish trick which he was playing. The child, who belongs to a coachman employed by Captain Mackinnon, R.N., of Ham Common, lay down in the roadway, and covered himself up with dead leaves. A cart (fortunately empty) was passing at the time; and the driver, not conceiving that the leaves contained anything human, drove across them. One of the wheels went over the child's face, completely smashing the nose and breaking in the teeth. The sufferer was got out in a terrible state of mutilation, and was ultimately taken to St. George's Hospital, where he now lies slowly recovering; but he will be disfigured for life.

A child has been killed at Brompton by an accident resulting from climbing up behind a cab. While hanging on at the back, one of his feet was caught by the wheels, which drew him over and dashed him on the ground. The left leg was torn off at the knee joint, and other injuries were sustained, which in the course of a day or two ended in death.

A man named William Birchall and his wife were returning late on Monday evening to Hoxland from Rotherham "statutes," and had reached a part of the road near the village of Elsecar where there is a reservoir on each side of the path, when they were alarmed by some missiles being thrown at them. The night was very dark, and the woman screamed out "Murder!" while her husband made a precipitate flight, leaving his wife to take care of herself. He dashed through a hedge, and fell into one of the reservoirs, where his body was found on the following morning.

STATE OF TRADE.

The trade reports from the manufacturing towns for the week ending last Saturday contain nothing of importance. At Manchester, the market is without alteration. The Birmingham advices indicate a slight increase of steadiness in the iron trade. In the general manufactures of the place there is fair employment, and the arrangements likely to be made in connexion with the suspension of Fox, Henderson, and Co., are expected to prevent the extension of any serious inconvenience from that event. At Nottingham, this is usually a quiet season, but the American orders for lace continue on a satisfactory scale. In the woollen districts confidence is well maintained, and the character of the home demand gives evidence of the prosperous condition of the general population. The Irish linen markets have not been well supported, and prices are tending downwards.—*Times*.

In the general business of the port of London during the same week the number of vessels reported inward was 168, being 86 less than in the previous week. These included 16 with cargoes of grain, rice, and flour; 20 with fruit, 5 with sugar, and 3 with tea. The number of ships cleared outward was 108, including 9 in ballast, showing a decrease of 21. The total number of ships on the berth loading for the Australian colonies is 56, being 4 more than in the last account. Of these, 7 are for Adelaide, 3 for Geelong, 3 for Hobart-town, 5 for Lanneston, 3 for Melbourne, 2 for Moreton-bay, 8 for New Zealand, 12 for Port Philip, 11 for Sydney, 1 for Swan River, and 1 for Warmanbool.—*Idem*.

In consequence of the letter addressed by the Crystal Palace Company to the Stock-Exchange, of which we gave the substance last week, being considered satisfactory, the committee have resolved that the name of the company shall be continued in the Official List as usual.

AMERICA.

DEMOCRATIC election successes are still recorded. In Florida, the pro-slavery candidate for the Governorship has been elected by upwards of four thousand majority. The same party appears also to have a majority in Indiana, and it is stated that the Congressional elections, so far as they are yet determined, show a gain of fifty-two members in ten states for the Democrats. In Ohio, however, the

Congressional vote shows the election of twelve Republicans and only eight Democrats. The Fillmoreites in Pennsylvania have refused to unite with the Fremont party, thus weakening the cause of the Free-soil men. In the meanwhile, strange tricks are imputed by the Republican party to the Government. It is stated by the Washington correspondent of the *New York Herald* that the Secretary of War has transferred nearly all, if not quite all, the troops from the ports on the Virginia coast to other stations. "Startling as it may appear," he writes, "I am told that this has been done for political effect. It is to enable the democracy of Virginia, by an apparent popular insurrection, to seize those ports about a week before the election, as an indication and earnest, indeed, of what Governor Wise, Jeff Davies, Governor Adams, of South Carolina, and their followers, intend to do if Fremont shall be elected to the Presidency."

In Kansas, two hundred and fifty emigrants, men, women, and children, had been stopped near the Nebraska line by a Deputy Marshal, disarmed, and placed under surveillance. To insure their stoppage, seven hundred men, with six pieces of cannon, were drawn up. The property of the emigrants was taken possession of.

A session of the Episcopal Convention was held at Philadelphia on the 21st ult., at which Mr. Buchanan attended. The House of Deputies was notified that the House of Bishops had erected Kansas and Nebraska into a separate missionary diocese, and had nominated the Rev. Dr. Clarke, of Waterbury (Connecticut), bishop. A discussion, of rather a warm character, thereupon ensued, some being of opinion that it was unadvisable to create the new diocese. The debate was adjourned.

The war between Nicaragua and Costa Rica proceeds with vigour. General Walker has made an attack on the Costa Ricans and their allies, and after two battles has driven them back upon Massaya, where, at the last dates, he was preparing again to attack them. Walker asserts that he was completely victorious in both fights, although he had but 1000 men engaged, and the enemy were 4000 strong. The enemy lost 1100 men in killed and wounded. Walker's loss was small. The decree of the Nicaraguan Constituent Assembly abolishing slavery has been revoked. At a public dinner, Colonel Wheeler, the United States Minister, freely expressed the sympathy which his Government entertains towards Walker. Lieutenant Estelle, a native of Tennessee, has been tried by court-martial and shot for murdering a brother officer. Walker's force is represented as numbering 1500 Americans. The allied force is estimated at 3000.

The sales of church property in Mexico have realized up to the 9th ult. the sum of five million dollars. At that date, there were rumours of impending revolution under the influence of the clergy.

"Brigham Young," says the *Times* New York correspondent, "has turned up once more in a troublesome way in Utah. Brigham dislikes the presence of the Gentiles in his settlement. I am afraid, from all I see and hear, that these wicked barbarians find more favour in the harem of Utah than suits the sanctified notions of the Mormon leaders. They have had a grand convocation in the Temple to denounce the infidels, and have followed up their denunciations by watching the federal mails, to prevent egress or ingress of suspicious persons." We read in the same letter:—"Charpentier, the principal person connected with the frauds upon the Northern Railway of France, has been arrested in a most romantic manner. It seems that he succeeded in eluding the vigilance of the officers and escaped to the country, where he disguised himself as a farm labourer, and let himself to a farmer. He was arrested by a mysterious person, melodramatically draped in a large cloak, who fettered him and brought him to New York at midnight. An official was aroused from his bed, and, while in a state of undignified and offended semi-nudity, was required to receive and take charge of the prisoner, the officer arresting keeping his cloak draped about his face, and refusing to give his name. A portion of the money has also been recovered." The mysterious officer, after leaving his prisoner, went away, and has not been seen since, nor is it known who he was. It was found that Charpentier was handcuffed, and in great pain from the swelling of his wrists about the manacles. His hands were then set free, though with some difficulty. A portion of the shares has been discovered under the pavement of a coal-cellar of a house in New York, let out in separate tenements. Information that it was there concealed was conveyed in an anonymous letter to M. Tissandier, inspector of the French Northern Railroad Company, now in New York. The letter gave the most precise instructions as to how the box containing the property was buried; and M. Tissandier accordingly obtained a search-warrant, and the coals having been removed from the place indicated, the pavement was taken up, and the box, with the valuables inside, was found.

Money is comparatively easy at New York.

The factory girls of Lowell have given expression to their feelings upon the late Summer outrage, by sending to Mr. P. S. Brooks thirty pieces of silver (three cent pieces), a rope, and a winding sheet, with a letter freely expressing their sentiments.

IRELAND.

REPRESENTATION OF BANDON.—A vacancy has been created in the representation of the borough of Bandon by the death of the Earl of Bandon and the consequent

succession to the title of Lord Bernard, the sitting member. Lord Bandon's death was the result of an attack of apoplexy, with which he was struck on Friday week, and under which he sank a few hours later in the day.

THE HARVEST OF 1856.—"The harvest," says the *Belfast Mercury*, "has at length been closed, and it will be admitted on all hands that the turn-out of the fields has proved most abundant. There have been seasons of no less ample returns in particular departments of Ireland's agriculture, but certainly the yield of this season in every variety of cereal has never been equalled. The Irish wheat crop of 1856 occupied an area of 529,363 acres, showing a pretty large increase in the breadth so occupied last year. This season's yield of oats, at a very moderate estimation, cannot be under 1,550,000 tons. Including the value of the straw—the growth of 1856 having been perhaps the finest raised for several years past—the actual marketable worth of Ireland's outfields will be found rather above 15,000,000 sterling. Seizures for non-payment of rent are all but unknown; and, what is no less astonishing, landlords and tenants live in the greatest state of harmony with each other."

THE DEFENCES.—Lord Seaton, accompanied by a numerous staff, has again left Dublin, with a view of following up a close inspection of all the military and naval positions in the kingdom. The first posts to be visited on the tour are Limerick and all the forts on the river Shannon.

FACTION MURDERS.—A farmer, named Kenna, has been killed on the borders of Tipperary by some political opponent. He was waylaid, and knocked on the head. Two other men belonging to an opposite faction have been murdered in the course of disturbances provoked by the same kind of animosity.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

FRANCE.

THE Emperor (says the *Times* Paris correspondent) has just given his approval to a proposition made by Marshal Vaillant, Minister of War, for removing some unpleasant difficulties which have arisen in Algeria between the officers in command and the functionaries of the military intendants relative to the exercise of the right of punishment. The proposition of the minister is to the effect that the Governor-General of Algeria, the commander-in-chief of an army in the field, and any general officer provided with special letters of service to command a division or a brigade employed separately abroad, shall have the direct right of punishing the functionaries of the intendants serving under his orders.

The *Gazette de France* attributes the present unsettled state of Europe, the financial difficulties of France, and, in fact, all existing evils, to the pernicious influence of England.

M. Goujon, a young astronomer of great eminence, who was chosen by the late M. Arago for his assistant, has just died of apoplexy, at the age of thirty-three.—Paul Delaroche, the artist, expired on Tuesday.

The *Daily News* and *Express* were both seized on Friday week. *Punch* was seized the day before.

M. Brenier, the French Minister at Naples, has arrived in France, together with Mr. Petre, the English representative.

A new *mairie* for the 4th arrondissement is to be built on the Place du Louvre, as also a residence for the curé of St. Germain l'Auxerrois, and a *maison de secours*. The houses which are to form the new place are progressing rapidly towards completion. Those opposite the colonnade of the Palace have arcades in front similar to those in the rue de Rivoli.

A treaty of commerce has been signed between France and the republic of Liberia.

The Paris papers have received orders not to allude to the Imperial festivities at Compiègne, it being by this time understood that they only excite the ridicule and anger of the people in their present state of pecuniary embarrassment and gloomy depression.

It is said that five persons have been arrested in Paris, in consequence of disclosures made by Charpentier, the man concerned in the railroad robberies.

The Parisian courts of law opened on Tuesday, and on Wednesday the *Moniteur* contained a report of a very long address delivered in the Imperial Court by M. Vaisse, the Procureur-Général, on the subject of the Empire, which the speaker thought was the truest exponent possible of the national will and the national tendencies:—"To say of a dynasty that it is new," observed M. Vaisse, "is only to say that it is, and should be, so much the more dear to the nation, as it is nearer to the time in which public gratitude consecrates it. Its title is not in its antiquity, but in its work accomplished." Further on the orator said, that the Emperor had "only sinned against humanity by the excess of his genius!" The country had become tired of the hollowness of an aristocratic government, and, therefore, struggled feverishly "until she acquired the right of suffrage to make her will known, and a single chief to carry that will into execution. A People and an Emperor, that is what the nation wanted; that is, in two words, the political constitution of France." Elsewhere, M. Vaisse talks of "the actions of the Parliamentary system." But the Empire has dangers; and among these, M. Vaisse reckons want of facile mechanism, elastic movement, and easy self-adaptation.

AUSTRIA.

It is worthy of remark that all the Vienna papers

agree in thinking that the recent article of the *Moniteur* against the British press was a great political blunder. The *Presse* compares the 'note' in question to those effusions which appeared in the *Moniteur* during the reign of Napoleon I., and reminds his successor of the probable consequence of a rupture with England.—*Times Vienna Correspondent*.

Some interesting particulars with respect to the currency reforms of Austria, are given by the *Times* Vienna correspondent, who says:—"Great secrecy was observed as long as the currency conferences were going on, but the results of the prolonged deliberations of the representatives of the leading German States are now generally known. The basis of the silver currency will be the Customs-Union pound. One pound of fine silver will be coined into forty-five florins in Austria, into thirty dollars in Prussia, and into fifty-two and a half florins in the Federal States in Southern Germany. A silver coin which will be a legal tender in all the German States is also to be minted, and fifteen of them will contain one pound of fine silver. The coin in question will therefore be worth two dollars in Prussia, three florins in Austria, and three and a half florins in Southern Germany. A gold Customs-Union coin will also be minted of the value of fourteen or fifteen Austrian florins. This gold coin will be called a 'crown,' and fifty crowns will be coined out of one pound of gold. The protocols of the currency conferences have been forwarded to the German States which were not represented here, and when they have been taken into proper consideration another and general conference will be held. It must be added that the price at which the gold 'crown' is to be taken in the German States will be fixed every six months."

The Austrians have evacuated Forlì, Faenza, and Imola. The Austrian occupation of the Papal States is now confined to the towns of Bologna and Ancona.

In consequence of a violent article against Austria which recently appeared in the *Morning Post*, and which nearly dissipated the *entente cordiale* now springing up between the Cabinets of Vienna and London, information is said to have been sent to the Austrian Government, to the effect that Lord Palmerston has no connexion with the journal in question.

ITALY.

The Austrian authorities in Milan continue, says a letter from that capital, to give themselves "a great deal of trouble in order to induce the citizens to exhibit a proper degree of the newly-invented duty of enthusiasm for the present dynasty." In their desire to shirk contributing funds to the proposed monument to the emperor, some persons have proposed to dedicate a newly-erected slaughter-house to the commemoration of the Imperial visit! Assuredly nothing could be more appropriate.

A piece of financial news, contained in a letter from Parma, says that it has been at length definitively settled that the Custom-house League with Austria shall not be renewed, and that this decision was mainly, if not wholly, to be attributed to the firmness of M. Lombardini, the Minister of Finance of Parma.

Some of the Genoese journals (says the *Times* Turin correspondent) are very indignant that at the official reception of the Empress Dowager of Russia by the Prince Carignano and the Count D'Aglié Deleghes, the latter should have displayed a blue cockade, while the former and his suite wore the tricolored badge. Explanations are loudly asked for, as also for the further asserted fact that the old azure flag was hoisted at the Fort of St. Giuliano during the King's visit.

It is stated that the King of Naples has recently made some ironical remarks at the expense of the Western Powers; and after what has occurred, it appears but natural that he should do so. If the diplomatic world speak truth, King Ferdinand, on the Queen's name-day, (October 15) spoke of his son, the Duke of Calabria, as his successor "by the grace of England and France." His Majesty, who was in remarkably good spirits, even drank to the prosperity of the two Powers, which had so kindly offered to assist him in governing his kingdom.—*Times Vienna Correspondent*.

On the departure of the French and English representatives from Naples, the utmost precautions were taken by the Government. The streets were lined with soldiers and police, and a determination was exhibited on the part of the King to use all his power for the suppression of any insurrection. Everything, however, remains quiet as yet.

"Several chests filled with arms, and addressed to Leghorn," says the *Risorgimento*, "have been seized at Avenza. The whole of the officers of the Customs have recently, by order of the Government, been incorporated with the troops of the line; great numbers complain of this arrangement, and demand their discharge. On the 6th of October, several young men who had belonged to the British-Italian Legion were arrested at Frizzano, to which place they had had the imprudence to return. What will Lord Normanby, who appears to be on such excellent terms with the Duke of Modena, say to this?"

The following letter, with a subscription of 500*fr*, has been addressed to M. Manin:—"Master and Brother,—Until such time as, ungagged and unimpeded, the Roumans speak and act, their children, students in Paris, have charged me to deposit in your hands, as an

earnest of the future, their subscription for the common cause of Alessandria. Yes, as an earnest; for, united as we are to Italy by the bonds of love and hatred, we Roumans of the Danube, shall never forget that we have the same enemy to beat down and the same country to raise up. Piedmont has defended us on the field of diplomacy: it is our duty to thank her on the field of victory.—Your devoted servant, C. A. ROSETTI, ex-Member of the Provisional Government of Wallachia in 1848.—Paris, November 1."

SPAIN.

"Official complaints against the press of foreign countries," observes the *Times*, "appear to be quite common just now. This time it is the French journals that have given offence: and, if what one of the Spanish papers says be correct, the fact of the press of a country being under the absolute control of a Government has its troublesome side as well as its advantages. The *Epoca* remarks:—"We have already drawn attention to the views of the Ministerial press respecting certain articles which the *Presse*, the *Gazette de France*, the *Estafette*, the *Siecle*, and other Parisian papers have published on the affairs of Spain. As the French press is under the censorship and direct inspection of the authorities, it seems our Ambassador at Paris has received orders to complain of the language used in noticing Spanish affairs."

General Enrique O'Donnell has resigned the command of the province of Cadiz.

On the 27th and 28th ult., the *Iberia*, *Clamor Publico*, *Cortes*, and *Asociacion*, Madrid journals, were seized by the police.

The Civic Guard is to be raised to 12,000 men. Sixteen Government bakeries are to be opened at Madrid to supply cheap bread to the poor. This measure, taken together with the sale of 200,000 bushels of wheat, the produce of the national property, and with the number of hands which will be required for the public works it is intended to carry on, will, it is hoped, meet the difficulties of the food crisis.

The *Gazette* publishes a decree, re-establishing the laws of 1844 and 1845 on the subject of the Press.

Señor Luiz Estrada is appointed Director of the National Property.

PORTUGAL.

The first section of the Santarém Railway, which is completed for about seven leagues from Lisbon to Casagado, was opened on the 28th ult., in the presence of the King.

RUSSIA.

In reply to a demand made by M. de Boutist, Admiral Lyons has declared that the English fleet will remain in the Black Sea until the treaty of Paris shall be fulfilled.

Count Gortschakoff, the Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs, has just transmitted to all the Russian agents abroad a circular from General Prince Gortschakoff, Governor of Poland, stating that all Poles who have taken refuge abroad in order to avoid military service are admitted to enjoy the benefit of the amnesty, and may return home without fear of being molested.

It is stated in St. Petersburg that, "to oblige France," the Emperor of Russia has not prohibited the export of corn from the Sea of Azof. The export of corn is prohibited from all the ports of the kingdom of Greece.

According to the Swiss *Edigenössische Zeitung*, the Dowager Empress of Russia nearly met with a fatal accident as she was passing the 'Via Mala' in Grubünden. One of the leaders of the team of six horses was restif, and the carriage in which her Majesty was drawn so close to the precipice that two of the posts on the side of the road were broken down. "The wheels," says the correspondent, "touched the very edge of the precipice, and, if there had been any oscillation, the carriage must have gone over."

"On the 14th or 15th ult.," says the *Times* Vienna correspondent, "the Allied Powers forwarded to St. Petersburg a note, or notes, in which it was said that they must still insist on the cession to Moldavia of the new town of Bolgrad, which lies at the north-eastern extremity of the Lake of Yalpucek. There cannot be a doubt that Russia has attempted to take undue advantage of the incorrectness of the map which was used at the Paris Conference; but the Allies, and more particularly France, are so very desirous to get the frontier question settled, that they are willing to cede to Russia a rich valley which lies between the rivers Yalpucek and Yalpujek if she will make no further difficulties about the cession of New Bolgrad. It seems that France proposed to cede the territory in question as an 'indemnification,' but England, Austria, and Turkey objected to the use of the word, as it would have been an implicit confession that Russia had some claim to New Bolgrad."

A recent collision between a vessel and the Imperial steamer during the late review of the troops at Cronstadt has been more serious than was at first made known. The force of the collision was so great that an officer belonging to the corps of pilots was carried overboard and drowned, while the Minister of War, Suchowinski, and the aide-de-camp of the Grand Duke Constantine, Greig, were seriously wounded, the former in the head and the latter in the leg.

TURKEY.

The Ottoman ministry, whose resignation the Sultan recently refused to accept, has at length definitively

ired, and a new ministry, with Redschid Pacha at its head, has come into power.

The Commission on the navigation of the Danube is about to reassemble at Vienna. The Porte will be represented at it. The Boundary Commission has still two months' work before it.

SWITZERLAND.

The English minister, in the name of his Government, has communicated to the superior executive Federal authority a proposition for the settlement of the question of Neuchâtel.

"The Federal examining magistrate charged with the affair of the 3rd and 4th of September," says a letter from Neuchâtel of the 29th ult., "has terminated his mission. Several royalist notabilities of the important town of Locle, in this canton, have just signed an address to their fellow-citizens, in which they declare that the best means of putting an end to civil discords, and restoring the confidence necessary for the development of public prosperity, consists, in their opinion, in the definitive ratification of the independence of Neuchâtel as a republican state and Swiss canton."

GERMANY.

The German Diet, at its sitting on the 30th ult., was occupied with the question of Neuchâtel, brought forward by Prussia. The question was referred to a committee of the Plenipotentiaries of Austria, Prussia, Bavaria, Wurtemberg, Saxony, Baden, and Darmstadt, which, on the 1st inst., declared itself, with certain modifications, in favour of the Prussian propositions.

SWEDEN.

Some Roman Catholics have established themselves near the Altner Copper Mines in Finnmark (which are managed by an English company), and have set to work vigorously in spreading their tenets among the population.

LORD PALMERSTON AT MANCHESTER AND SALFORD.

Lord and Lady Palmerston arrived at Manchester on Tuesday evening, having left London at ten o'clock in the morning, by the day mail. They were met at the London-road station by Sir Benjamin Heywood, at whose residence, at Claremont, they made their temporary sojourn.

An address was presented to the Premier on Thursday by the Salford Corporation, in reply to which his Lordship made some remarks on the excellence of local self-government, and complimented the corporation on the efforts it had made to spread education among the lower classes. Alluding to his alleged warlike tendencies, he said:—"My hon. friend the member for Salford has remarked upon the imputations which on former occasions were cast upon me personally of a disposition to risk, without necessity, the peace of the country, and to go, if not into the thick, at least to the verge, of wars with other countries. Those accusations, allow me to say, were founded on a misconception of the nature of things (*cheers and laughter*); for, depend upon it, a country like this, with great interests at stake and a great reputation to maintain, does well to guard against the approach of insult and the very appearance of wrong, and that it is easier to stop the beginning of such affairs than to find a remedy when the evil has risen to a great magnitude." After avowing that his government is a government of progress, and paying a high compliment to Mr. Brotherton, M.P., who had previously spoken, Lord Palmerston concluded by warmly thanking the corporation for the honour they had done him.

He then departed for Manchester, in the Town Hall of which he received the address of the Town Council, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Commercial Association, and then replied at great length. He spoke in favour of the principle of Free Trade, the adoption of which had largely increased the wealth and happiness of the country, and which he trusted would soon be spread among all continental countries, though they had bitterly opposed it upon grounds the most incongruous and self-contradictory. The apparent difficulties of the government upon first assuming office were overcome by the indomitable energy and zeal of his coadjutors, by the confidence in them and in himself of the Sovereign, and by the manly spirit of the nation. Referring to the war, and paying the usual compliments to the valour of our soldiers and sailors and the faithful co-operation of our allies, his Lordship said:—"We are now at peace, and I hope that that peace may be lasting. Its duration must depend upon the honour and fidelity with which its conditions are fulfilled (*cheers*). I trust that that Power which brought upon itself the hostility, either active or moral, of all Europe, by a forgetfulness of international rights and duties—I trust that that Power, having concluded a treaty, will observe that treaty and fulfil it with faithfulness, and then, no doubt, peace will be of long duration." The Premier afterwards alluded to foreign politics in general, observing:—"The difficulties that may arise in regard to the protection of individuals from wrong, are difficulties which generally arise in weak and small States. Larger Powers are above these things. With those Powers—either of Europe or the United States—we have little difficulty

in protecting subjects, because there we find a sense of right and wrong that, when appealed to, is sure to obtain justice and redress. (*Hear, hear.*) It is among the smaller States, where, from various circumstances which I don't wish now to go into, the principles of right and wrong are not quite so steadily kept in view—(*laughter*)—it is there that we are most frequently called upon to interfere. And then, when we do interfere, people say—'Ah! you attack the weak.' Why, those countries abuse their weakness; they make their weakness the pretence for doing evil, trusting that you will overlook their delinquencies merely because you are able to obtain redress for yourselves." After glancing at one or two topics connected with the extension of our foreign and colonial trade and with education, the Premier brought his remarks to a conclusion; after which, together with Lady Palmerston, he visited the Exchange and other parts of the city.

At eight o'clock in the evening, his Lordship addressed the members of the Manchester Mechanics' Institution, who met in the Free Trade Hall, which was densely crowded. Here his remarks were of a more literary character. Quoting Pope's well-known couplet,

"A little knowledge is a dangerous thing;
Drink deep, or taste not the Pierian spring,"

he added:—"I hold that that is a mistake, and much error has it produced. A little knowledge is better than no knowledge at all. (*Cheers.*) The more knowledge a man has, the better; but, if his time and the means at his disposal do not permit of his acquiring deep and accurate knowledge, let him have as much as he can, and depend upon it, he will be all the better for it. (*Continued applause.*) We may be told that we shall make him a mere smatterer in knowledge, to which I reply, that it is better for a man to be a smatterer than to be ignorant and uneducated. There are many lines of information which it is most essential for a working man to pursue, but from which, were it not for institutions such as this, he would be hopelessly excluded. In the first place, there are certain laws of nature of which some regulate the trade in which he is employed, some govern and control his industry, and on others depend the well-being of his existence; and yet those laws are not to be known by the simple-minded man."

His Lordship added that he would not only have the working man study matters of science, but would have him refresh his mind by occasionally reading works of imagination and fancy, such as poems and romances, which "are useful by giving buoyancy to the intellect, and inspiring the mind with noble sentiments."

At the conclusion of this speech, Professor Scott and Dr. Vaughan addressed the meeting at some length, and the proceedings terminated at ten o'clock.

Lord Palmerston gave a promise on Thursday to visit Liverpool on the following day.

SANITARY MATTERS.

THE REGISTER-GENERAL'S WEEKLY RETURN.

THE returns of the London districts are still of a very favourable character. In the week that ended on Saturday, the number of deaths registered was 969. In the corresponding weeks of the last ten years (1846-55), the average number was 1009; and the same rate of mortality would produce in the increased population of the present time 1110 deaths. The improved state of health now existing has therefore reduced the number of last week's return by 141; and similar results have been obtained during the month now terminated. Diseases of the zymotic class were fatal to 175 persons; affections of the respiratory organs, exclusive of phthisis and hooping-cough, to 190. Under the average rate of mortality from zymotic diseases in former years, the deaths last week would have been 295. Scarlatina is at present the most prominent in this class, and numbers 40; and St. John, Marylebone, where five children died of it, returns a greater number of deaths from this disease than any other sub-district. The registrar of Hampstead records the death of a girl at 19, Boundary-road, St. John's Wood, being the second from scarlatina maligna within a few days in the same house; and he reports the statement of the medical attendant, that the complaint has prevailed particularly at this spot (which ought to be healthy), and is in his opinion fostered by the accumulation and decomposition of organic matter in that part of the Bridge-road which lies in the parish of Hampstead, and where, it appears, there is a want of drainage. It is satisfactory to find that small-pox has lately been more rare, and last week the deaths from it were only four; viz., two in St. John, Westminster, and two in the Small-pox Hospital, Islington. The deaths from typhus declined to 32. Three fatal cases of carbuncle are recorded; and two of mortification in children from the application of blister. Two women and a man died at the age of 91 years; a man and a woman at 92; and a woman in the Belgrave sub-district at the age of 95 years.—Last week, the births of 777 boys and 792 girls, in all 1569 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1846-55, the average number was 1445.

THE QUARTERLY RETURN.

This return comprises the births and deaths registered

by 2196 registrars in all the districts of England during the summer quarter that ended on September 30, 1856; and the marriages in 12,194 churches or chapels, about 3783 registered places of worship unconnected with the Established Church, and 628 superintendent-registrars' offices, in the quarter that ended on June 30, 1856. The marriages are still below the average number, the births are above, and the deaths are below the average. Thus, although the high price of provisions keeps the marriage rate below the high rate which has prevailed for some time, the increase by birth and the public health of the English population present in the returns a favourable aspect.

MARRIAGES.—77,434 persons were married in the three months of April, May, and June; and the marriage rate of the quarter was 817 per cent. per annum. The average rate of the quarter is 855. The marriages (88,717) exceed by 268 the marriages in the corresponding quarter of the year 1855, but are fewer by 1801 than the marriages in the spring quarter of 1854. The decrease of marriages is most obvious in London, in Sussex, in Bucks, in Somerset, in Gloucester, in Leicester, in Nottingham, and in North Wales. In Berks, Northampton, Suffolk, Devon, the North Riding of Yorkshire, Cumberland, Westmoreland, and South Wales the marriages increased.

BIRTHS.—157,633 children, who were born alive, were registered in the quarter ending on the last of September. The birth-rate of the quarter is 3278 per cent. per annum, while the average rate is 3209. The number of births exceeds by 2799 the births in the corresponding quarter of 1855, and is the greatest that has ever been registered before in England in the corresponding quarter of the year. An increase in the births is observable in every division, except the North Midland division, the North-Western division, and Yorkshire.

DEATHS.—91,330 deaths were registered in the three months of July, August, and September, and the death-rate was 1899 per cent. per annum, the average rate being 2199; so that it was during the last season 300 under the average of the preceding ten summer quarters. Out of the same population, there were six instead of the average tale of seven deaths. Cholera was epidemic in 1854, and the summer death-rate, then so high (2423), fell to 1854 and to 1899 in the subsequent summer quarters.

[Appended to these statistics are some admirable observations by the Registrar on the necessity of keeping our houses cleanly, of removing all decaying animal and vegetable matter, of draining the land about dwellings, and of choosing healthy, i.e. elevated, sites, instead of the damp hollows now frequently built on. He alludes more especially to farmhouses, which are often surrounded by large heaps of offensive substances generated in the farmyard, and which are also too frequently stifled by trees and ricks. He adds:—]

In the dairy, a little dirt spoils the milk, butter, or cheese; unless the vessels of the brewery are clean, the ale is injured; and farmers have hence learnt by experience the importance of cleanliness in the interior of their houses. From them, the taste for household cleanliness has been diffused through the surrounding population. They have only to render the air which they breathe about their houses pure, to become, with those around them, the healthiest people in the world.

To place any of the new farmhouses and cottages to be built on certain elevations is the first point; to carry out and to cover with earth all the refuse of the house and yards daily, would prevent the escape of the ammonia, the most precious part of the manure, and at the same time rid the atmosphere of the fatal malaria that surrounds the farmhouses and cottages of the country. About 6426 English farmers die in a year, and of them many are young. 2605 are under sixty-five years of age.

OUR CIVILIZATION.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE FORGERIES.

WILLIAM JAMES ROBSON, lately a clerk at the Crystal Palace, was tried last Saturday at the Central Criminal Court for the frauds and forgeries committed on the company, and which amount, according to the statement of Mr. Ballantine, counsel for the prosecution, to rather more than 10,000*l.* The accused, who is about thirty-five years of age, appeared to have recovered entirely from the depression which he exhibited when before the Lambeth police magistrate, and now conducted himself in a very confident manner. He pleaded Guilty to three of the indictments charging him with larceny as a servant, and Not Guilty to the charge of forgery. Upon this issue, therefore, he was tried.

The facts brought out in evidence were thus stated by the Judge (Mr. Justice Erle) in summing up:—"William James Robson was indicted for the forgery of an instrument called 'a transfer of shares,' and, in another count of the indictment, with having forged 'a deed of Henry Johnson.' The deed purported that, on the consideration of 156*l.*, Henry Johnson transferred to Joseph Lowe fifty shares in the Crystal Palace Company, numbered from 145,052 to 145,101. The signature to that deed, where the name of the transferor should be, was Henry John-

son. Opposite to that name were the seal and signature of the attesting witness. The words in the instrument were, "Signed, sealed, and delivered by the above-named Henry Johnson, and the signature was attested by 'William James Robson, of No. 3, Adelaide-place,' whose signature was affixed as the attesting witness. According to the evidence of Mr. Clement, it appeared that Robson applied to him to sell one hundred shares—fifty in the present instrument and fifty in another. Acting upon these instructions, Mr. Clement went into the market and sold one hundred shares, and then received from Robson the paper produced and another paper. Mr. Clement paid Robson 295*l.* as the profit of these instruments, which profit passed from Mr. Clement to the prisoner at the bar. Now, was the instrument produced a forged instrument? It purported to be a transfer of 'Henry Johnson, of Birmingham, contractor,' and that individual had been called, and had sworn positively that the signature of 'Henry Johnson' was not his or written by his authority. He also said there was no 'Henry Johnson, of Birmingham, builder and contractor,' but himself. He swore most positively that he never had any shares in the Crystal Palace Company, and that he never knew, until the transactions of that day in that court were brought to his knowledge, that his name was entered on the register of the Crystal Palace Company as having any interest therein. If they believed Mr. Johnson that he had never signed the deed in question, or given Robson authority to sign his name for him, the offence would be proved, and it would be shown that the prisoner uttered this deed and received value for it as for a genuine instrument. But the prisoner's counsel had contended, after a great deal of cross-examination of Mr. Johnson, that it was doubtful whether Johnson did not give Robson authority to put his name to this instrument, and something had been said about the hesitation or anxiety in Johnson's manner in giving his evidence. That was a question entirely for the consideration of the jury. Johnson stood in the relation of a brother-in-law to the prisoner, and that might explain a good deal of his anxiety without imputing to him an intention to defraud or to state that his name was false. Johnson said that he had borrowed 700*l.* or 800*l.* of Robson, and he believed that in 1854 he borrowed 100*l.* from him at the Telegraph-office in Cornhill, when he wanted to make up some money to pay his wages. Mr. Johnson said this was not so late as December, 1854, and the paper which the prisoner was charged with having forged was dated 'February 2, 1855.' Johnson swore that on that occasion nothing passed about Robson not using his own name, and using instead the name of Johnson. As Johnson, indeed, had no shares in the Crystal Palace Company, it was idle for him to give the prisoner authority to execute a transfer of fifty non-existing shares. If they believed Johnson, the instrument was a forgery." The Judge having commented on the rest of the evidence (which was all of a confirmatory character), the jury consulted for a few minutes, and then found the accused guilty. Another indictment against him, in connexion with the forgery of a dividend warrant, was withdrawn. Robson was then sentenced to be transported for twenty years for the forgery, and for fourteen years on account of the larceny—the latter sentence being concurrent with the first, and therefore simply nominal. The convict walked from the dock with a defiant air.

While the jury were deliberating, it was remarked that, instead of looking towards them, Robson employed himself by scribbling upon a sheet of paper. This sheet was afterwards handed round the bar, and was found to contain the following observations:—"If I am found guilty upon this charge, I will not plead again, but take my chance. Johnson has completely sold me—Henry Johnson, of Birmingham." In one corner of the sheet, the convict sketched a very good likeness of his brother-in-law, having thus engaged himself while Mr. Justice Erle was passing sentence upon him. This extraordinary conduct will scarcely be matter of surprise when it is stated that, after having left Mr. Fasson, the accountant of the Crystal Palace, at his own residence, on the 17th of September, Robson drove direct to a famous West-end tavern, where he was then in the habit of frequenting, and ordered dinner for himself and a lady who joined him during the afternoon. The dinner consisted of fish, curry, and a brace of partridges; and, while it was being served, Robson, addressing the waiter, said, "I am sorry Mr. — has sent me curry, for I never eat it. Pray tell him to remember this when I dine here again." On that very night he died.

A public auction took place on Monday, at the Livery-stables, Hart-street, Covent-garden, of the last remaining effects belonging to Robson. These comprised a chestnut gelding, a set of plated gig harness, riding saddles, bridles, stabling implements, a handsome brougham, dog-cart, &c. A large number of spectators assembled, and very high prices were realized—higher, indeed, than would have been reached, but for the associations which cling to the purchases. The harness is stated to have fetched a price far above its original value.

A FACTORY RIOT.

Some very serious disturbances have occurred at Baildon, near Bradford, owing to a disagreement between Mr. Taylor, a worsted manufacturer, and some of his

workpeople. Mr. Taylor has recently adopted the system of working two looms, instead of one, by one weaver, who thus earns about half as much more wages than a weaver at a single loom; but double the quantity of work is performed, and the employer, therefore, manifestly reaps the greater advantage. Another mill, situated at Shipley, in the same general locality, is also owned by Mr. Taylor, who has not here introduced the two-loom system; and the workmen at this establishment proceeded in a body on Wednesday week to the Baildon mill, and threatened the two-loom weavers. This went on for some time, and at dusk the mob amounted to two thousand persons, men, women, and lads. They demanded that Mr. Taylor should turn the overseer and all the two-loom weavers out of the mill. He refused; and the mob then began to destroy the mill. At this juncture, Thomas Smith, a weaver, went out to reason with the malcontents; but he was struck on the head with a stick by a woman named Grimshaw, and some of the men then beat him severely, knocked him down, and kicked him, several exclaiming, "Throw him into the water!" "Kill him! kill him!" At length, however, he managed to get back to the mill. Another two-loom weaver was also murderously assaulted, but escaped with his life.

In the meanwhile, the destruction of the edifice proceeded. Mr. Wheeler, the designer of the mill, broke through the brick wall of his room with an iron bar, made his way to the back part of the premises, removed two panes of glass, and thus escaped, the mob shouting out in front that they would have hold of him. Mr. Taylor, having made his appearance before the crowd, and endeavoured to prevent them obtaining further access to the premises, was seized round the waist by a man, who tried to throw him into the water; but he extricated himself and knocked his adversary down. At that moment, he was struck on the forehead by a large stone, which inflicted an extensive wound. It was now dark, with a thick fog. Some of the rioters, however, carried blazing besoms, which had been dipped in tar or pitch, with which they threatened to set fire to the building. The light thus afforded, however, served to secure the identification of the ringleaders. Volley after volley of large stones was thrown, and nearly all the mill windows were broken; the machinery was injured, and damage to the amount of 200*l.* was done. One of the rioters seized a pole with some blazing tarred shavings at the end of it, and thrust it into the mill; another man ran up the outside stairs with a similar burning mass, and made a second endeavour to fire the building. But both these attempts failed, and the mob dispersed about eight o'clock.

Seven women and two men were subsequently taken into custody, and, after examination last Saturday before the magistrates, were sentenced to various terms of imprisonment and hard labour, with the exception of one of the women, who was merely ordered to find sureties to keep the peace.

ASTUTE FORGERS.

Two men, named William Salt Hardwicke and Henry Attwell, were indicted at the Central Criminal Court for forging and uttering a cheque of 410*l.* 7*s.* 4*d.* on Messrs. Gosling and Sharpe, the bankers. Early in the present year, Mr. Turner, a solicitor of Red Lion Square, lost a pocket-book containing a blank cheque and some letters belonging to him. Attwell shortly afterwards called at his office and requested him to apply to a man of the name of Hest for the sum of 38*l.*, which Attwell alleged was owing to him. An I O U for the amount claimed was produced. Mr. Turner took the necessary proceedings, and a stranger called upon him a few days afterwards, and paid the 38*l.* into his hands, and also 6*s.* 8*d.* for the letter which the lawyer had written to him. Attwell called again at Mr. Turner's office not long after this, and was paid in cash the sum which he claimed. After a very short interval, he presented another I O U to Mr. Turner for 103*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.*, with a similar request to that which had accompanied the first. The lawyer took the same proceedings as before, and the amount was subsequently paid to Attwell by a cheque on Mr. Turner's bankers, Messrs. Gosling and Sharpe. A forged draft in Mr. Turner's name, for 400*l.* 7*s.* 4*d.*, was then drawn, and a young man who had advertised for a situation was employed by a person (doubtless a confederate of the prisoners), to take it to the bankers to get it cashed. Attwell's accomplice, Hardwicke, was in the banking house at the time it was presented, probably with the intention of seeing that matters were all right; and the cheque was paid, partly in eight 50*l.* notes, and the rest in gold. After this, Hardwicke's wife went to the Temple Bar branch of the Union Bank, where she stated that she wished to transmit 20*l.* to Mr. Richard Gurney at Hamburg. The cashier acceded to her request, and told her that the Hamburg agent of the bank would be advised to pay the amount to Mr. Gurney upon his applying for it. Very soon afterwards, both prisoners made their appearance at the Hamburg bank, when Hardwicke represented his name to be Gurney, and claimed the 20*l.* Taking advantage of the introduction thus offered them, they asked for, and obtained, change in gold for the eight 50*l.* Bank of England notes which were the produce of the forged cheque, thus removing every clue that

might lead to the discovery of the perpetrators of the forgery.

In the course of last September, Hardwicke and Attwell appeared at Yarmouth, where they each committed a series of frauds upon different people; but they were at length discovered, in consequence of them lawyers who had been applied to happening to meet casually, when the circumstance of the different applications which had been made to them by Attwell being mentioned, their suspicions were aroused, and steps were immediately taken, which ultimately led to the apprehension of the prisoners. The jury found them both guilty. A second charge was brought forward against Hardwicke, who, it was stated, had forged an acceptance to a bill of exchange for 1000*l.*; and so nearly had he succeeded in carrying out this fraud, that the clerk at the bank was in the act of handing him the notes in payment, when the largeness of the amount induced him to examine the bill a second time more narrowly, and it was then discovered to be a forgery.

The prisoners were sentenced to transportation for life.

WITCHCRAFT IN SOMERSETSHIRE.—A case of gross credulity has just been made public at Shepton-Mallet. A woman named Welshman, who is by profession and reputed a witch, was recently sent for by another woman named Bathe, of Downside, to dispossess her of a spell under which the latter fancied herself labouring. Welshman quickly put her magic in operation, impressing on her victim the necessity of strictly abiding by her instructions. The poor woman went on for some weeks until she was brought to a very low state of health by various tricks which had been practised upon her, and she then communicated what had been going on to some neighbours. The result was that Welshman was brought before the magistrates, and, it being proved that she had extorted various sums of money from her dupes, besides supplying herself with vegetables from the garden, she was committed to the House of Correction for six weeks.

A SAD CASE.—Emma Riley, a girl of seventeen, who appeared to be in a very miserable state, was indicted at the Central Criminal Court for the manslaughter of her illegitimate infant. She was charged upon an imputation taken by Mr. Wakley, the coroner; but there had been no inquiry before a magistrate. The young woman had been seduced by a man named Bennett, who had left her and her infant to starve. It was sought to be made out, in support of the charge of manslaughter, that she had wilfully withheld from her child that nourishment with which she was in a condition to supply it. The evidence, however, failed entirely to make out this fact; on the contrary, it appeared that the miserable young woman was herself almost in a starving condition, and that her milk was nearly dried up in consequence. She was acquitted, and has been taken under the protection of the sheriffs, who will see that she is properly looked to.

MURDEROUS ASSAULT.—A man named Thomas Dennis has nearly murdered a woman of the town living near Holborn, with whom he was to have been married. He had brought home to her last Saturday night a trifling sum of money, which she said was not enough to keep her honest; and she refused to go to the theatre with him, saying she must "stay at home and earn her living." Burke then went out, but, returning about half past twelve o'clock, found her in bed with another man. Enraged at this, he struck her over the head with one of his boots, and died, leaving her bathed in blood.

APPREHENSION OF AN ESCAPED CONVICT.—A man named Priest, who escaped from the Oxford gaol early in August, has been apprehended in Birmingham. A letter from a woman with whom he cohabited to a female acquaintance who could not read, and who had the note to a publican that he might inform her of the contents, disclosed the place of Priest's concealment. He had lived for some time with a set of travelling showmen, who promised to protect him should he be sought after; but he afterwards quarrelled with them, and left. On one occasion, at Summerstown, he was very nearly captured by the police in a public house; but he jumped over a back wall, and got clear of across the fields.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.—Thomas Dennis, a convict in the Model Prison at Hol loway, has been found guilty of a murderous assault on one of the women under circumstances which were related in the *Leader* of October 25th. He is now sentenced to be transported for fourteen years, to commence at the expiration of his former sentence.—William Smith pleaded guilty to a charge of firing a loaded pistol at William Ward. The offence was committed under an impression that Ward had been on terms of improper intimacy with the wife of the accused. On finding the pistol misa fire, Smith beat Ward about the head with the weapon. He was sentenced to hard labour for eighteen months.—William Anderson, a labourer, was charged with stealing property from the person of Richard Felstead, an errand boy, about twelve years of age. The theft was committed in a street in Clerkenwell, on the evening of the 14th ult. The boy was knocked down by a blow on the head; but he jumped up and valorously ran after the thief, who was stopped by two passengers. Anderson was found guilty, and sentenced to fifteen years' trans-

peration. The Recorder ordered that 2L should be given to the witnesses who had stopped the thief, and that the like sum should be invested in a savings bank for the boy.—George Brownman, a fashionably dressed young Creole, has been tried on three indictments, charging him with forging an order for 3L 3s, with stealing three sovereigns, and with obtaining some shirts under false pretences. He alleged that he was in a high position in the East India House, but this was false. He defended himself with great ability, and obtained an acquittal in the first two cases, but was convicted on the last, and sentenced to nine months' imprisonment.—Richard Gower has been found guilty on a charge of embezzling several sums of money belonging to the South Eastern Railway Company, by whom he was employed, as station-master, at Forest Hill. He was sentenced to four years' penal servitude.—Joseph Lane, who was convicted before the Recorder of a libel, was brought up last Saturday for judgment, and sentenced to be imprisoned for two years.—The court, at its rising, adjourned to Monday, November 24.

THE CASE OF ALLEGED CONSPIRACY, &c.—George Fossey surrendered at the Central Criminal Court on Monday to take his trial with William Neary upon an indictment of misdemeanour and other charges of the same character. It will be remembered that Neary was tried last week, and convicted of stealing money belonging to the prosecutor, Mr. Walker, an iron manufacturer and contractor, at Millwall. He was afterwards tried upon another charge jointly with Fossey for obtaining money by false pretences; but the case failed entirely, and the defendants were acquitted. Mr. Serjeant Ballantine said upon that occasion that there were several other indictments against Neary and Fossey, and he would consider whether he ought, in the performance of his duty, to proceed with any of those indictments. The result was the laying of the present indictment, which arose out of the same circumstances as the former, and the chief witness, as before, was Steele, the nephew of Fossey, and the son of his former partner. There was very little, if any, confirmation of his testimony, however, and it transpired, as on the former trial, that legal proceedings were pending between the parties; and that Fossey, who had since become bankrupt, had obtained an immediate second-class certificate after a full investigation of his accounts and affairs by the Court of Bankruptcy; and that he had a claim of between 6000L and 7000L upon the estate of the prosecutor, which, if established, would enable him to pay 20s. in the pound to all his creditors. The jury returned a verdict of Not Guilty.—In connexion with the offence of which he was previously convicted, Neary has been sentenced to nine months' hard labour.

STRANGE DISCOVERY OF A CHILD.—A short time ago, at the village of West Derby, as a carter living in the neighbourhood was proceeding with his cart and horses along a lane, he observed, in an adjoining meadow, two highly respectable looking women, dressed in deep mourning, engaged in an operation which attracted his attention. Having finished their work, they walked off hastily across the fields. As soon as they were gone, the carter repaired to the spot where he had noticed them at their work, and at first saw nothing but a heap of fallen leaves. After a time, however, the leaves seemed to become suddenly animated, and the hand of a child was projected above the surface. The carter immediately removed the leaves, and found underneath them a male infant. He had it conveyed at once to the West Derby workhouse; but, notwithstanding all the care and attention which was paid to it, the child died of convulsions in a few days. The police are searching for the women.

GAROTTED ROBBERY NEAR HALIFAX.—Mr. Norcross Burrows, a printer of Halifax, has been assaulted and robbed by three men, with blackened faces, on the high-road within a short distance of that town. Mr. Burrows, who is a shareholder in a new mill lately erected in the locality, had been lately in the habit of going there once a week, often taking with him large sums of money to pay the contractors. One night, about a week ago, as he was proceeding on horseback to the mill as usual, he was stopped by three men at a spot where two principal roads meet. One of the ruffians knocked him off his horse, and he fell headlong on to the road. While he was in this situation, he was forcibly held down by two of the men, one of whom tried to throttle him with the scarf he had on; and the third emptied his pockets of all the money they contained, which fortunately did not amount to more than a few shillings. Exasperated at getting so small a booty, the thieves kicked their victim in different parts of his body several times, with such violence as to cause the blood to gush from his mouth, nose, and ears. Mr. Burrows called for assistance, and the ruffians, hearing the sound of footsteps approaching, ran away. The injured man then attempted to remount his horse, but found that the saddle-girths had been cut, and he once more fell to the ground. Although much hurt by the blows he had received from the men, it is believed that his injuries are not fatal.

MURDEROUS ASSAULTS BY A DISCHARGED GERMAN SOLDIER.—Ludwig Theiss, a German, formerly belonging to the disbanded German Legion, is in custody under a charge of murderously assaulting, with a spring dagger-knife, a man named Moules, and a police-constable.

Some rudeness was committed by Theiss, to a girl at the corner of Vine-court, Spitalfields, about twelve o'clock last Saturday night. Moules interfered, and was struck by the German. The former then threatened to give the latter into custody, and the policeman (Warner) happened to come up at that moment. Theiss ran at him with his knife, and stabbed him once in the chest, and twice in the thigh. He then broke away, and slashed Moules across the face. A working man, who was passing by, grappled with the ruffian, threw him to the ground, and broke the blade of the knife against the pavement. Several other policemen arriving, Theiss was conveyed with great difficulty to the station-house. He was examined on Monday before the Worship-street magistrate, and remanded. The wounded men are in a dangerous state.

ROBBERY AT THE HOUSE OF THE ASSISTANT-JUDGE.—Some impudent thief has committed a robbery at the residence of Mr. Pashley, Q.C., the Assistant-Judge. He presented an official-looking letter at Mr. Pashley's house in Manchester-square, and said he was to wait for an answer. As the bell rang, the footman was bringing the tea-service down stairs, and he placed it on a table in the hall while he went to the door. He took the letter up-stairs to Mr. Pashley, and when he came down the man was gone; so were the tea-spoons, sugar-tongs, tea pot, and sugar-basin, as well as an umbrella. The thief got clear away.

A DISGRACEFUL BUSINESS.—The town-crier announced a few days ago at Retford, in Northamptonshire, that a married woman, of the name of Starkey, would be offered for sale in the public market on the following day. At the appointed hour, a large number of people assembled; but, previous to this, Starkey went to the house of a man named Bradley, where his wife resided, and presented a halter with which to lead her away. Bradley then attacked him, and bit his cheek very deeply. As soon as he could get away, Starkey returned to the market-place, related his sorrows, and was in the act of receiving the condolence of the bystanders, when two policemen made their appearance, and took him into custody on a charge of being a deserter from the militia of the West Riding of Yorkshire.

COMMITTAL OF AN ATTORNEY IN COURT.—Mr. Cooper, an attorney, was committed to prison one day last week, by the Chairman of the Cheshire Quarter Sessions, for tearing to pieces an invoice which would have damaged the case of the client he was representing. The action was seen by several persons, and the pieces were recovered; but the event created a great sensation in court, and the chairman said, he had never known an event so audaciously wicked. Mr. Cooper was discharged the next day; but an application will be made to the Court of Queen's Bench to have his name struck off the rolls. The hearing of the case, thus strangely interrupted, was suspended.

A RECKLESS BANKRUPT.—Judgment was given by Mr. Commissioner Goulburn on Tuesday, in the Court of Bankruptcy, in the case of W. Tingey, the proprietor of the Pantechicon, Tottenham-court-road. His Honour said, "The case was one of a class which were increasing in number in this court. In June, 1853, the bankrupt had a capital of 23,000L, including 10,000L at his banker's. On the 13th of January, 1856, he handed over to the official assignee 13L 5s. 5d., being all the cash he had. Not only was the capital gone, but the estate was involved in heavy liabilities. The calculation of the official assignee was that the estate would pay from 3s. to 4s. in the pound. It was but just, however, to the bankrupt to say, that if his calculation had been realized the dividend would be about double the amount. Now, what were the charges against the bankrupt? They were—first, that he did that which was a great offence on the part of any trader—viz., that when close upon bankruptcy he transferred to another a portion of his property, the property being the Pantechicon. The property was transferred to a near relative at a time when the bankrupt must have known that he was in failing circumstances. The next charge was, that intending to give his sister a preference, he had given her a charge upon part of his property. The third was, that he had recourse to conduct which must always be reprobated—obtaining money by any means. Take, for instance, his transaction with David Leopold Lewis, who passed through the Bankruptcy Court not very creditably, and obtained a third-class certificate. Lewis had been a bankrupt once. He had also been an insolvent. The bankrupt had had recourse to Lewis in raising money in a manner which was most improper. His own expression was—'The price is high, but we must have the money.' The transactions with Lewis occurred at the time when the bankrupt knew his position, and ought to have been husbanding the property of his creditors. Rowland and Evans were told to negotiate bills to the amount of 2000L, and to get money anyhow, or at any price. Lewis at this time was an uncertificated bankrupt, and could have no property of his own unless he had perjured himself and retained it from his assignees. The practice could not be too much reprobated of procuring discounts in the form of articles of only nominal value. In this case there were given, for the 2000L of bills, cash under 200L, certain poisonous liquids christened for the nonce champagne (a laugh), some railway sleepers which had

realized 3L, and some paintings, one of the best of which had been since sold for 12s. Who were the parties to this transaction? One was an uncertificated bankrupt, and the other a person just upon the threshold of the court. He considered the transaction an iniquitous one, and unbecoming any trader." The books of the bankrupt, however, had been well kept; and the commissioner therefore thought that the justice of the case would be met by a suspension of the certificate (third-class) for a year, with protection.

ASSAULTS ON THE POLICE.—William Harrison, a ruffianly member of the prize-ring, who has but recently been discharged from prison, has been committed for a month to the House of Correction for an assault on a policeman, whom he struck and kicked on the sides and abdomen. When before the magistrate, he alleged in his defence that he could not go about without being looked after by the police, and he complained of having been greatly ill-used. On hearing his sentence, he said, "Can't your worship make it a fine, because I can get the money?" This was of course answered in the negative, and when leaving the bar, Harrison made use of a violent threat towards the constable, upon which he was brought back, and ordered by the magistrate to find bail for two months, to commence on the termination of one month's hard labour.—Joseph Tomlinson, a private in the Grenadiers, and Deborah, his wife, were charged at the Marylebone police office, with a ferocious assault on several policemen. Both the accused were drunk last Saturday night at the corner of Duke-street, Manchester-square, and, on a policeman arriving, the woman said she would give her husband into custody for knocking her about. The moment, however, the officer took him in charge, the woman attacked the constable. Other policemen then arrived, and a fight took place, the Grenadier and two other soldiers striking at the officers with their belts, and the woman biting them with great ferocity. Ultimately, both were conveyed to the station-house. Tomlinson, when brought before the magistrate, said he was sorry for what had occurred; but the woman, with a look of defiance at the magistrate, asked, "Why don't you take my head off at once?" Both were sentenced to three months' hard labour.—William Gaffer and Eliza Gaffer, man and wife, have been found guilty at the Middlesex Sessions of an assault, accompanied by great violence, on two policemen on Saffron-hill. The former was sentenced to hard labour for a year, and the latter to one month's imprisonment.

ATTEMPTED MURDER AT HOLLOWAY.—Samuel Lowry, a watchmaker, carrying on business at Spencer-street, Clerkenwell, but living at Holloway, has been charged at the Clerkenwell police-office with attempting to kill Thomas Poulson, a labourer, by shooting at him. Some time ago Lowry let Poulson a piece of ground at Holloway, but finding that the latter was not regular in the payment of his rent, he gave him notice to quit last Lady-day. Poulson refused to do so, and Lowry, to prevent the other from occupying the ground, put up a gate with a padlock attached to it. This was knocked down by Poulson almost immediately afterwards, in consequence of which he was given into custody and brought before the Clerkenwell magistrate, who, however, declined to interfere in the matter, as it arose entirely out of a case of disputed possession of land. Since that time the two men had been continually quarrelling, and the police, on several occasions, were obliged to interfere in order to quell the repeated broils and fights which had arisen between the disputants and their friends. One morning Poulson went there accompanied by a fellow-labourer named Wright, whom he sent for a spade, and, as the man was going to fetch this implement, he saw Lowry, who twice threatened to kill both him and Poulson. After they had worked together for some time on the piece of ground, both the men left to get some tools, when Poulson was shot at by Lowry from his bedroom window, and was wounded in the face, neck, and arms. The magistrate remanded Lowry for a week, that the result of Poulson's injuries might be known, and refused to take bail.

FORGERY.—Henry Sharp, a ticket-of-leave man, went with a forged cheque for 20L to Stuckey's banking-house, Bristol, last Saturday morning. Suspicion being excited, the man was requested to go with one of the clerks to the house of the firm purporting to have signed the cheque; but he ran off while on the way. On the same evening, he went to the shop of Messrs. Hyam, outlitters, and tendered in payment for some clothing a cheque on Stuckey's bank for 10L. He was desired to call again in about an hour. He left, and in the meanwhile the cheque was discovered to be forged. Sharp did not return, but he was seen in the streets by the cashier at Messrs. Hyam's, and was told that the goods he had ordered were waiting for him at the shop. Thither, accordingly, he went, and was given into custody. On his way to the station-house, he threw away a blank cheque-book of Stuckey's Banking Company, from which two cheques had been taken. Sharp was committed for trial on both charges. He was tried at Gloucester Assizes in 1852 for a similar offence to that with which he is now charged, and was sentenced to ten years' transportation. He obtained his ticket of leave in May of the present year.

A YOUNG GENTLEMAN AND HIS REVELS.—A

Mr. Lindsay, an hotel-keeper, brought an action in the Court of Exchequer for the recovery of 90*l*. due to him from a young man of twenty-five, named Melkham, whom he alleged to be indebted to him to that amount for the use of apartments, and for food and goods supplied. He first entered the house in December, 1855, and it was soon apparent that he did not live in the most respectable manner. "He used frequently," said Mr. Lindsay, in cross-examination, "to be drunk." He often had 'ladies' in the house, unknown to the hotel-keeper, and racing men frequented the place. "Young (a friend) and the defendant," continued Mr. Lindsay, "used to have suppers at my house, and then they went out to their midnight revels. Young only had a bedroom at my house. Sometimes the defendant used to get into Young's bed, and Young did not come home until the next day, when he would arrive in a smart brougham—St. John's-wood, you know. (Laughter.) On one occasion, I lent a person 2*l*.; that was for her to get a page's dress for her maid. She was dressed as a queen, and wanted her maid to be dressed as a page to hold her train at a *bal masqué*. I went to fetch the defendant from the theatre when she arrived, but he was with somebody he liked better, and he would not come. I can't tell who ate the suppers I have charged for; they were supplied to the defendant in his private room." A verdict was given for Mr. Lindsay, for the amount claimed.

A BURGLAR CAUGHT IN A CHIMNEY.—A thief climbed a few nights ago on to the roof of a house in Banffshire occupied by a widow, and attempted to descend the chimney in order that he might ransack the house. But he stuck fast in a narrow part, and could not get up or down. His struggles roused the old woman from her sleep, and she straightway kindled some straw in the grate, the result of which was that the thief was horribly scorched. He roared for assistance, and some navvies who were passing got a ladder and ropes, and drew the intruder forth more dead than alive. Two policemen who were among the crowd then took him into custody.

MIDDLESEX SESSIONS.—The November general sessions commenced on Monday, when Joseph Boucher, a designer, was indicted for embezzling the sum of 18*l*. 12*s*., and a variety of other sums of money, which he had received on account of James Jacquier, a jacquard loom manufacturer in Bethnal-green, his master. He pleaded "Guilty," by advice of counsel. It appeared that he had committed the offence under the pressure of embarrassment, arising out of some foolish speculation. He became very repentant, and confessed what he had done to his master, whose opinion of him was so high that, notwithstanding the confession, he continued him in his service as collector for three weeks after he was aware of his offence, and then, after consulting some other person or persons, he gave him into custody. The Assistant Judge sentenced him to three months' hard labour.—Thomas King, a youth of seventeen, has been found guilty of stealing some plate from the house of a clergyman at Hackney, and was sentenced to six years' penal servitude, it being shown that he was an old companion of thieves. Another young man, named Plane, was acquitted of a charge of being concerned in the same robbery. He was able to prove an *alibi*.—Samuel Lane, a shoemaker, has been sentenced to six months' hard labour for a murderous assault on Eliza Molloy, an Irishwoman with whom he lived, and whom he used to ill-use and threaten for being 'a heretic,' he being a Protestant and she a Roman Catholic. The prisoner said, he did not care for six months, but he was entirely innocent of the charge which had been brought against him. He did not mind a little while in a London prison after twenty-one years' hard service in India.—Maria Stith, Louisa Harper, and Lydia Mayne, were indicted, the first on a charge of stealing a sum of 30*l*. from her master, a bookseller in Holborn, and the others for receiving the same, knowing it to have been stolen. Mayne was acquitted, but Stith and Harper were found guilty. The first was sentenced to four, and the second to six months' hard labour.

FRAUD.—The charge against Alexander Steinberg of defrauding Mr. John Deputo of 1550*l*. (the particulars of which were related in this paper last week) was again gone into at Guildhall on Tuesday, when a man named Collins was also put at the bar, charged with conspiring in the same fraud. Both prisoners were remanded, and bail was refused.

MORE ROYAL BRITISH BANK ROBBERIES.—The widow of Inspector Rumball attended at the Marylebone police-office on Tuesday, to say that she was left with a family of six children, and that she was in so distressed a state that she knew not what to do. A subscription had been got up, after her husband's death, among the inspectors of the general police force, and a sum was collected, which, after payment of debts, &c., left in the hands of the widow 90*l*. This she placed in the Royal British Bank just two days before it stopped. She had since been compelled to part with many articles of furniture and clothing for the support of her family. Some pecuniary assistance was given to the poor woman from the funds in the magistrate's hands; and doubtless public sympathy will be aroused for this victim of rascality in high places.

DISPROPORTIONATE SENTENCES.—Henry Thurlow

and Francis Davenport have been sentenced at the Middlesex Sessions to four years' penal servitude for stealing small sums of money, the one from a Hindoo sailor, and the other from an Englishman.—At the same sessions, William Walsh was condemned to only eight months' hard labour for assaulting and seriously injuring a man who reproved him for insulting in the streets his (the prosecutor's) sister-in-law.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.—Elizabeth Fogarty, a girl of nineteen, was charged at Worship-street with attempting to commit suicide by swallowing laudanum. It appeared that about a fortnight before she flung herself off one of the bridges, but was dragged out. On that occasion she was taken to Bow-street. On being now asked the reason of these attempts, she replied:—"My father is a woodcutter in Westminster, I have lost my mother, but I have a stepmother, and, as my father would not do anything for me, and I have no place to go to, what can I do? I yesterday went to the Mansion-house to ask for an asylum; but the Mansion-house was shut up, and I therefore wandered on to Hackney, and swallowed the poison in Mare-street. I bought the poison in the Strand, at a chemist's, where the gentleman asked me what it was for, and, on my telling him it was not for me, he served me directly." The girl was remanded, and on the following day Mr. D'Eyncourt, the magistrate, told her he had succeeded in obtaining for her an admission into the Elizabeth Foy Institution, for which she seemed very grateful.

RIOUS BOYS.—For some weeks past a congregation of Dissenters, who meet for worship at a school on Brixton-Hill, have been greatly annoyed by a number of idle boys, who have persistently disturbed the service by making loud noises outside. One evening, a few Sundays ago, a member of the congregation, on going out to ascertain the cause of the clamour, received a severe blow from a brickbat. At length it was found necessary to obtain the services of one or two policemen; and last Sunday, a youth of seventeen, the son of a Dissenter, was caught, and placed on the following morning before the Lambeth magistrate, by whom he was ordered to find two sureties in 10*l*. each, or one in 20*l*., to be of good behaviour for one month.

FURIOUS DRIVING.—A boy of fifteen, the servant of a market gardener, has been sent to prison for a week by Alderman Wire for driving a cart belonging to his master with such reckless speed as to knock down and seriously injure an old man in Thames-street, City.

THE KNIFE AGAIN.—Giuseppe Sasella, a soldier in the Anglo-Italian Legion, has attempted to stab a woman of the town in the streets at night, and also a man who went to the rescue of the girl. He was intoxicated at the time. Having been apprehended, he was brought before the Guildhall magistrate, by whom the case was adjourned. Sasella denies that the knife was open.

THE MURDEROUS ASSAULT IN PARLIAMENT-STREET.—The wounded man Cope is still unable to attend at the police-office; but he is progressing favourably, and no doubts are now entertained of his recovery.

MORE TICKET-OF-LEAVE RUFFIANISM.—John Parke, a sullen-looking young man, out on 'ticket of leave,' has been committed for trial for a violent assault upon Edwin Hoyle, assistant to Mr. Milo, tobacconist, of Bullinn-court, Strand. The prisoner walked into the shop on Monday morning, and, asking for a pennyworth of snuff, took up a silver-mounted meerschaum pipe and a bundle of cigars, and concealed them under the sleeves of his coat. He was observed by Mr. Hoyle, and followed. He then handed back the cigars, but, on being detained by Hoyle, he struck him a violent blow on the head with some weapon, cutting open his temples, but happily doing him no serious injury.—A well-dressed man, with several aliases, is in custody for a garrotte robbery committed some few nights ago on the person of Mr. Edward Mason, a banker's clerk in Blackman-street, Borough. Two other men (not captured) were concerned in the outrage. On Mr. Mason calling out for assistance, the prisoner, who was engaged in rifling his victim's pockets, exclaimed to one of the others who was grasping him by the throat, "Pinch him tighter! pinch him tighter!" which was accordingly done. He was then thrown on the ground, and all the men ran away. The chief of the gang, however, was stopped and secured by a constable. The police report him as an old offender; and he has been committed for trial.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

THE EDINBURGH CRIMEAN BANQUET.—"The banquet to the Crimean soldiers in Edinburgh," says the *Times*, "took place in the Corn Exchange there on the evening of Friday week. The hall was decorated with a profusion of ornament, while with the brilliant uniforms of the guests was combined the still more attractive splendour of a large assemblage of the fair sex. The spectacle was altogether one of the most dazzling and magnificent which the city of Edinburgh has seen for many a day. Behind the platform table was raised a huge military trophy, consisting in great part of spoils taken from our recent enemies, over which the flags of the gallant regiments invited to the banquet waved. Surmounting the whole was emblazoned the significant scroll 'Welcome to Auld Reekie!' On either side were the ancient arms of Scotland and the heraldry of the city, as also the portraits of the allied sovereigns. The walls and central

pillars were almost concealed with flags and banners, the latter inscribed with the names of Crimean heroes. At the bottom of the hall were emblematic figures and illuminations, surmounted with a scroll bearing the name of 'Florence Nightingale.' In the compartments of the roof were armorial devices representing the allied nations, the United Kingdom, and the city of Edinburgh. The number present considerably exceeded 2000. Tables were set in the body of the hall for 1420." The Right Hon. the Lord Provost presided. The speeches were too long to permit of our reproducing them.

PROPOSED CRIMEAN MONUMENT AT SHEFFIELD.—A movement has been commenced among some of the working men of Sheffield to erect a monument in that town to the memory of our countrymen who fell in the Crimea. They have communicated with Miss Florence Nightingale, through her relative, Miss Shore, of Meersbrook Hall, Sheffield, requesting that she would consent to lay the foundation stone. Miss Nightingale has replied as follows:—"Lea Hurst, Matlock, Oct. 23, 1856.—"My dear Lydia,—"The purpose mentioned to me in your letter has my deepest sympathy. It would have been most congenial with my feelings, on my return from the deathbeds of so many brave men, to take a part in it. I shall be with the men of Sheffield in spirit whenever they execute their proposed plan. It is with real pain that I feel compelled to decline the privilege which they offer to me, of laying the first stone. But I believe I shall best honour the cause of those brave dead by abstaining from appearing to court that publicity which I consider to have been my greatest impediment in the work I have been engaged in for their sakes, impeding it by arousing in some minds care for worldly distinctions. . . . Pray believe me, my dear Lydia, ever truly yours,—"FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE."—Miss Nightingale has also sent a cheque of 50*l*. towards the object, consisting of subscriptions of 5*l*. each from herself, her father, Mr. Nightingale, and her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Smith. The undertaking will be launched by a public meeting convened by the Mayor.

GRAND NIGHT ATTACK AND SIEGE OPERATIONS AT CHATHAM.—The whole of the troops belonging to the Royal Engineers together with the East India Company's Sappers and Miners, and a large party of troops belonging to the provisional battalion and the Royal Marine Light Infantry, were engaged until a late hour on Monday night in a night attack and other siege operation which took place on Chatham Lines, in the presence of several thousand spectators. The tactics, which included the tracing of parallels, the formation of trenches and batteries, and the conducting and repulsing of sorties, occupied about four hours. The points attacked consisted of those portions of the line of fortifications which surround Chatham Garrison, and which are known as the Spur Battery, the King's Bastion, the Prince of Wales's Bastion, and Prince Edward's Bastion. The whole force employed is calculated at 1200 men. The effect of the lights and fireballs, which the garrison burnt in order to reveal the locality and doings of the attacking party, was extremely grand, causing the country to be illuminated for some miles round.

OBITUARY.

SIR JOHN JERVIS, Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, died last Saturday night from atrophy caused by a distemper from which he had long suffered, and which had reduced him to a very delicate state. In early life, he served for some time in the army. He was called to the bar in 1824. Having in time become a Queen's Counselor, he was made Attorney-General in 1846, and in 1850 was raised to the Chief Justiceship of the Court of Common Pleas, in succession to Lord Truro, who became Lord Chancellor. Sir John Jervis was a Liberal in politics. He sat for Chester from 1832 to 1850.

DR. HAGGARD, Chancellor of the Diocese of Manchester, expired at Brighton yesterday week, in the sixty-third year of his age.

MISCELLANEOUS.

AUSTRALIA.—Some interesting particulars of fresh gold-fields are contained in the *Straits Times*, which says:—"The discovery of new and rich diggings at Rocky River and Stony Creek, near the town of Bathurst—which place has been deserted for the gold-fields—has caused a complete panic (sic). They were rushing in hundreds from the older diggings to the new El Dorado, which we need not be surprised at when we are gravely assured, on credible authority, that one party secured three hundred ounces and another one hundred and sixty ounces in the course of one afternoon. Many thousands were on the newly-discovered treasure spot, and among the number about two thousand Chinese. By the way, the latter class of immigrants were pouring into Sydney and Adelaide by shiploads, and several steamers had been chartered to convey them along the coast and up the rivers so as to enable them to reach the diggings by the shortest possible route. At Melbourne, they were seriously discussing the propriety of removing the restrictions placed on the landing of the Chinese in that province, seeing that the influx into the colony, either via Sydney or Adelaide, is greater than when the Celestials were first to land at Melbourne and Williamstown."

THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—The last advices from the Cape are very meagre. There has been an interview between the Governor and the chief of the Kafirs, and matters have been arranged.—St. Vincent, Cape de Verd, has suffered terribly from cholera. Out of a population of 1200, 800 persons have died, principally males. The bodies of the dead were burnt in the public square in the absence of means to inter them. The Emperor screw steamship, which took out troops from England, was coaled by women.

THE WEST INDIES.—There is little news of importance from any of the West India Islands. At Jamaica, the sugar crops were in a prosperous state, but it was expected that the pimento plant would fall very short of the ordinary average. In many places it had totally failed. The *Demerara Royal Gazette* says that the immigration prospects in that colony are much brighter this season than they were last. Already seven ships are chartered to bring immigrants from Calcutta and Madras. Immigration from Madeira is stopped for the present and for some time to come; and the Cape Verd people, having passed the crisis which threatened to decimate them by starvation, are now disinclined to emigrate, at least in that direction.—An illustration of the truth of M. Louis Blanc's statements with respect to the French political prisoners at Cayenne is also contained in the *Demerara Royal Gazette*, which states that the Imperial colony is suffering excessively from sickness. A great number of the prisoners escaped, and almost perished from hunger and every species of suffering in the forests. Five were caught and brought back. The Governor has obtained leave of absence to return to France for the benefit of his health. When will the prisoners be allowed to return for the benefit of theirs?—Trade, for the most part, is dull in the various islands. As regards sanitary matters, there does not seem to be more than the usual amount of sickness.

FRANCE AND RUSSIA: THE APPROXIMATION.—We read in the *Observer* the following significant piece of intelligence, dated St. Petersburg, November 1:—"Count Walewski, the French Foreign Minister, a Pole, is to have the Polish estates of his family restored to him again for his services to the Czar in the late war."

IRON ORES IN INDIA.—The following notice has been issued from the East India House:—"Lieut.-Colonel Goodwyn, chief engineer in the Lower Provinces of Bengal, having addressed a paper to the local government pointing out the abundance of iron in India, and suggesting the means to be employed for working the ore, it has been deemed expedient to give publicity to his communication, together with a memorandum prepared at the East India House, showing the measures which have been adopted from time to time, with the view of directing the attention of British capitalists to the iron-producing districts of India. Further reports on the subject may be shortly expected; and any new matter therein contained will be published in like manner for general information." This is followed by the documents in question, which are of great length, and establish the existence of iron in various parts of our Indian Empire.

REAPPEARANCE OF MR. SPURGEON.—Mr. Spurgeon resumed the occupancy of his pulpit in Park-street Chapel, Southwark, last Sunday morning. A great many persons were admitted by tickets before the doors were open to the public, and the chapel was densely crowded. After prayers, and the singing of one of Watts's hymns, the preacher alluded to the catastrophe at the Surrey Gardens, exclaiming, "Thanks to thy name! Thanks to thy name! Thy servant feared he should not have addressed this congregation again. But thou hast brought him from the fiery furnace, and not even a smell of fire has passed upon him." The accident, he afterwards said, "might not have arisen so much from the malice of men as from some simply wicked intention to disturb the congregation. I cannot entertain for a moment the thought that there was any intention to murder those fellow-creatures whose lives were sacrificed on that melancholy occasion. God forgive the instigators of that horrid scene. They have my forgiveness from the depths of my soul. It shall not, however, stop us; I shall preach there again yet—(approving sounds of approval)—and God shall give us souls. Satan's empire shall tremble yet more and more. God is with us. Who shall be against us?" The sermon which Mr. Spurgeon afterwards delivered, is described as singularly free from the preacher's usual peculiarities. A great crowd awaited Mr. Spurgeon's departure from the chapel, and many eager admirers ran after his carriage to grasp the hand which he extended from the window of his brougham. It is stated that the child who was carried away wounded by his father after the accident is not dead, but is recovering. Another of the sufferers, however (a man), has died in the course of this week.

THE NEW DEAN OF CARLISLE.—A public meeting of the inhabitants of Cheltenham has been held for the purpose of inaugurating some testimonial to the Rev. F. Close, the late incumbent of the parish, who has recently been appointed to the deanery of Carlisle. Several Evangelical clergymen and some Dissenters were on the platform. Speeches expressive of affection for Mr. Close were delivered, and resolutions in accordance with the object of the meeting were carried. One of these resolutions was seconded by a gentleman who, in avowing

himself a Wesleyan Methodist, said he had felt pleasure in contributing personally towards the fund raised by the churchwardens of Cheltenham, in order to "add to the stunted income of Mr. Close." The churchwardens had added, in the shape of Easter dues and other offerings, 400*l.* a year to Mr. Close's stipend. He rejoiced at Mr. Close's removal to a scene of less arduous duty, where he would be under the Evangelical Bishop Villiers.

MRS. PALK, M.P., ON THE STATE OF THE NATION.—The annual dinner of the Agricultural Association of Woodbury, Devonshire, was held on Wednesday week. The health of Mr. Palk, M.P. for South Devon, having been drunk, that gentleman, in acknowledging the honour, reviewed the present state of politics in the style peculiar to meetings of the kind he was then addressing. He said that he was a Conservative in his opinions, yet that he was not the slave of prejudice, nor of systems whose day has gone by, but would support that progress which the country demands, as long as it is consistent with the existing constitution. However, he thought it would be very wrong to send forth our "best blood"—that of our yeomen and aristocracy—in order to "force our institutions on nations which are unable and unworthy to appreciate them; but," he added, to the great satisfaction of his auditory, "let every nation wash its own dirty linen at home." This phrase appears to be a favourite with Mr. Palk. He introduced it thrice, and made it one of the 'points' of his speech, applying it to the *Times*, which had been recently "sneering" at the agriculturists. "There is an old adage, and a very true one," said Mr. Palk, with a disregard of congruity quite heroic, "that, before you give advice to others, you should be careful to wash your own dirty linen at home." At this, the diners loudly cried "Bravo!"

EXTENSIVE FIRE.—A very destructive fire occurred last Saturday morning at Huddersfield. A little after five o'clock, the extensive woollen cloth factories at Folly-hall, the property of Mr. J. Kaye, builder, and known by the name of "Kaye's Mills," were found to be on fire. In ten minutes, the flames were issuing from every window of the floor in which the conflagration commenced; by six o'clock, the whole of the slates were off the roof; and at a quarter to seven every floor of the edifice had fallen in. A building separated by a partition wall alone escaped destruction. The premises, though belonging to Mr. Kaye, were in the occupation of several manufacturers. At least three hundred work-people are thrown out of employment by the disaster. The damage is estimated at from 12,000*l.* to 15,000*l.* Both owner and occupiers were partly insured.

HIGHLAND DEPOPULATION.—With respect to Professor Blackie's complaints of Highland depopulation, owing to the creation of deer forests, "A Deer Stalker" writes to the *Times*:—"I think, if the Professor would take the trouble of inquiring a little further into this subject, he would find that a deer forest gives employment to a greater number of persons, as foresters, watchers, and gillies (some of them, too, having much higher wages than shepherds), than the same extent of ground would do under sheep, while it produces a rent three or four times greater, adding, therefore, so much more to the wealth of the Highlands. Deer are, indeed, now the most valuable produce of a Highland estate, as those who hire deer forests know to their cost. *Experto crede.* In that part of the Highlands with which I am best acquainted, the wages of shepherds have greatly risen of late years, and gillies are hardly to be got. This is undoubtedly the result of depopulation, which, however, is there attributed, not to 'deer forests,' but to the attractions of Australia."

THE TURKISH MISSION AND SOCIETY.—A public meeting of this society has been held at Exeter Hall in aid of the funds being raised for the propagation of Protestantism in Turkey; Mr. Kinnaird, M.P., in the chair. The special object of the gathering was to take leave of Dr. Hamlin, who had made great exertions for the mission. In the course of his address, that gentleman spoke of the rapid spread of Christianity in Turkey, and of the facility with which the Bible and Christian tracts may be distributed among the people, which was not the case only a few years ago. But, he observed, "If Englishmen were to attempt to preach Protestantism among the Turks, it would arouse their constitutional jealousy and fanaticism. However, if they could evangelize the Armenians, they were so intimately associated with the Turks that their principles would be disseminated among the latter. If, therefore, the great problem was how to Christianize Turkey, he believed the way to solve it would be to spread the truth among the Armenians. Direct missions to Turkey would fail, but if they brought the three millions of Armenians in Turkey to embrace the principles of Christianity, it would influence the whole empire, and each Protestant Armenian, in fact, would become a missionary to the Turk." Three elements of Protestantism, said the speaker, have been introduced into Turkey—a free press, free schools, and free churches.—Colonel Rawlinson gave some particulars of the rapid progress of the Nestorian Christians of Kurdistan; and, after various resolutions had been carried, the meeting broke up.

ST. MARY ALDERMARY.—The Lord Mayor, the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex, and the Under-sheriffs, attended at St. Mary Aldermary Church upon its re-opening, after extensive repairs and restorations,

to hear a sermon for the benefit of the City Dispensary. The edifice now presents a very splendid appearance.

MR. BARON PLATT has resigned his seat as a Baron of the Court of Exchequer. He has been succeeded by Mr. Watson, Q.C., who on Thursday went through certain preliminary ceremonies, and on Friday "took the oaths and his seat."

MR. ERNEST JONES'S POLITICAL SOIRÉE.—The second of this gentleman's political soirées was held at St. Martin's Hall, on Tuesday night. The speaker again insisted on the misappropriation of the land, and asserted that the British constitution is a relic of Norman feudalism, that it represents only two elements, land and money, and that it is "one of the vilest shams and greatest legislative curses ever inflicted on a people." In the course of his address, Mr. Jones said the soirées were not given for the sake of profit to himself, for that any money remaining after the payment of expenses was applied to "the propagation of political truth."

COMMERCIAL INTERCOURSE WITH CENTRAL AFRICA.—At the monthly meeting of the Council of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, held on Monday, Mr. C. Holland presiding, a letter from the Board of Trade was read, enclosing a copy of a despatch from Mr. Campbell, her Majesty's Consul at Lagos, who advises the extension of our commerce with Africa, and asks for any observation the Chamber might wish to make. It was resolved, with a view to afford every information to, and to elicit the opinion of, the commercial public on a question which, in the opinion of this Council, is of great importance, that the document should be published in the local papers.

SIR BENJAMIN HALL AND THE BOARD OF WORKS.—A deputation from the Metropolitan Board of Works waited upon Sir Benjamin Hall, M.P., on Wednesday, at his official residence, Whitehall, for the purpose of submitting to him the various plans which had been prepared by the engineer to the Board for the drainage of the metropolis; and also to lay before him certain plans in connexion with the improvements of the metropolis. The deputation consisted of Mr. John Thwaites, chairman; Mr. Bazelgette, Mr. Wolwyck, and the superintendent architect. Mr. Thwaites read a resolution of the Board of Works, which expressed an opinion that it would be unfair to compel the ratepayers of London to defray all the expenses in connexion with a great drainage scheme from which, in consequence of the place chosen for the outfall, the county of Kent would be more especially benefited. The Board, however, were willing to undertake the work if her Majesty's Government would provide a portion of the money required from the public funds. A good deal of discussion ensued; Sir Benjamin objecting, with some warmth, that the plans proposed had been twice rejected by the Board, complaining that there had been considerable dilatoriness, and stating that it was his duty to oppose any scheme which was against the terms of the act of Parliament. The plans for the proposed new streets in Southwark and near Covent-garden were then submitted; and these Sir Benjamin said he should consider first, and that he should not be prepared with an answer relative to the drainage question for several days. The deputation then withdrew.—A deputation waited on Sir Benjamin on Thursday, and presented a memorial from the inhabitants of Erith praying that the plan for metropolitan drainage presented by the Board of Works may not be adopted. The right hon. baronet said he would give the subject his earliest attention. The outfall, it appears, is within the boundary prescribed by act of Parliament.

LAW AMENDMENT SOCIETY.—The first general meeting of the fourteenth session of this society was held last Monday evening, at the Society's Rooms, in Waterloo-place, Pall-mall; Mr. Collier, Q.C., M.P., occupied the chair. A large number of new members were balloted for and elected, and a long document was read, pointing out the chief subjects connected with the reform of the law, which would demand discussion during the session.

ODDITIES AND TRUTHS, BY MR. HENRY DRUMMOND, M.P.—This eccentric gentleman presided on Friday week at the annual dinner of the Dorking Agricultural Society. In addressing the feasters, he alluded to agricultural statistics, which he did not think would be of any use, but he thought the farmers had better let the Government have the information required, "for those fellows would have the returns, whether they would give them or not, and, if they refused to give them quietly, fellows would be sent about the country to obtain the information, and the worst of it would be that they would have to pay them, and therefore he thought it was a 'bad spec.'" (Laughter.) He then distributed the awards, observing that agriculturists were as much skilled labourers as any other class, since a Manchester man would bungle at driving a plough or shearing a sheep, while a 'clodhopper,' as he was called, would do both perfectly well. He congratulated the meeting on the conclusion of the war, and upon their attaining, "if not peace, at least the possession of a parchment with several illustrious names appended to it; but whether it was intended to act up to all the conditions therein expressed, he could not say." He thought that England ought to interfere, and tell despotic sovereigns that they should not treat their subjects in a way according to their fancy. Alluding to the Emperor of the French, he said that "individual had been making war against the English

newspapers; and, although he (the speaker) had seen many abuses made of the liberty of the press, he would rather have it exist with all its mischief than suffer it to be controlled one iota. (*Hear, hear.*) They must tell the Emperor of the French that, before he puts down the English press, he must put down the English people (*great cheering*); for they would be fighting, not merely for their own interests, but for the interests of all civilized beings in the world." Mr. Drummond concluded by saying that he thought Lord Palmerston "the right man in the right place."

HARVEST HOME.—The old English custom of harvest-home has just been revived on the St. Giles estate, Dorsetshire, the seat of the Earl of Shaftesbury. Having previously entertained at a festivity of this description the peasantry on a portion of his domain in that county to the number of nearly three hundred, his Lordship last week invited those residing in the parishes of Horton, Woodlands, Sutton, and Gassage All Saints. The labourers and servants on the various farms, numbering about three hundred and fifty, assembled during the morning in the yard adjoining the mansion of St. Giles, under the care of their respective employers, and shortly afterwards proceeded to church, headed by a band of music. After the service, an hospitable dinner was served in a large tent. The Earl then addressed the company in terms of cordial welcome, and finally the park was thrown open, and dancing kept up with much spirit.

HERAT.—Notwithstanding the efforts of England, the Persian army (according to a despatch from Constantinople) is actively pressing the siege of Herat. It is fortifying the environs, of which it has obtained possession after having defeated the Afghans, 6000 of whom have surrendered.

FOLLOW MY LEADER.—A newspaper is shortly to be started in Somersetshire, the title of which is more flattering than fair to ourselves, being nothing less than *The Leader and Somersetshireman*. It was at first stated that the journal was to be an organ of Mr. Prince and his followers in the 'Abode of Love'; but this has been denied.

MR. HUMPHREY BROWN, M.P., of British Bank reputation, has, in the exercise of his magisterial capacity at Tewkesbury, condemned a man to two months' imprisonment for stealing half-a-crown's worth of coal. The foolish man ought to have committed depredations to the extent of some thousands, and then he would have been safe.

EARTHQUAKE IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—A shock of earthquake was distinctly felt in and around Adelaide at about a quarter past two o'clock on Wednesday morning, the 25th of June. It was accompanied by a loud rumbling sound, which lasted for several seconds and gave the idea of thunder underground. It was naturally felt more in lofty houses, in some of the upper rooms of which the earthenware and even the furniture were perceptibly shaken. From the numerous letters published in the Adelaide papers, from persons resident in town and the suburban districts, it seems to have extended over a wide range.—*Australian and New Zealand Gazette*.

GENERAL WILLIAMS AND OMAR PACHA.—In reply to some observations of Lieutenant-Colonel Simmons, Sir W. F. Williams writes to the *Times*, explanatory of a remark in his published letters depreciatory of Omar Pacha's generalship in the Asiatic campaign:—"On the arrival of Omar Pacha to take command of the army which was intended to relieve Kars, he wrote to the Mushir Vassif Pacha, by the hands of an aide-de-camp, telling him, that 'if we stood firm for twenty days he would relieve us.' It can easily be imagined that we waited anxiously and worked hard during those twenty days in expectation of the succour which Omar Pacha knew while promising that he could or would not render. Selim Pacha played the same game from Trebizond, telling us that he had an army sufficient to relieve us, and that his men were burning for advance. We therefore held on to the hopes inspired by these two generals, until famine had reduced the strength of our devoted little Turks, and rendered impossible all chance of marching and cutting their way over the mountains; and I will venture to say that as long as a soldier of that garrison survives, the names of those two men will be execrated."

COLLIERY INFORMATION.—Several small colliery owners have been fined by the West Riding justices for breaches of the law in not having established special rules, for non-publication of general rules, for omitting to fence shafts, &c.

FALL OF A BRIDGE AND LOSS OF LIFE.—Some of the arches of a newly-constructed bridge over the River Tees, at Dinsdale, near Darlington, have fallen as the workmen were removing the woodwork or centres. Two men were killed, one hopelessly injured, and others considerably hurt.

THE ROYAL BRITISH BANK.—The choice of assignees was completed on Thursday, in the Court of Bankruptcy. Debts on deposit and drawing accounts, to the extent of 200,000*l.*, were proved.

MR. COBDEN.—It is stated by the *Huddersfield Examiner* that Mr. Cobden will not again come forward as a candidate for the representation of West Yorkshire. The heavy duties connected with the local affairs of such a constituency require more attention than his health will allow him to bestow.

MATHEW v. LORD MAIDSTONE.—A rule to show cause why the verdict in this action (which was tried at the last Guildford assizes) should not be set aside on the grounds of misdirection, and that it was against evidence, has been granted by Mr. Justice Cresswell in the Court of Common Pleas.

EDUCATION IN THE MINING DISTRICTS.—An interesting Report on the actual state of the population in the Mining Districts has lately been drawn up by Mr. Hugh Seymour Tremenheere, the Commissioner appointed, under the Act of the 5th and 6th of Victoria, c. 99, for the investigation of the subject. The statement offers a descriptive and statistical view of the social and educational improvement of these classes, and more especially of the voluntary associations formed for educational purposes by their employers. It appears that the working of the compulsory school system had proved very defective when these local combinations were first set on foot some five years ago. Until the age of ten, indeed, the children of miners were not allowed to work in mines; and up to that time they attended the regular schools. But it happened that, when the labour of life began, education in its turn immediately ceased; and children of eleven and twelve were found to have forgotten all that they had been taught in the ordinary schools. In order to cure this evil, Mr. Tremenheere succeeded, in 1851, "in inducing all the principal iron and coal masters in South Staffordshire to form themselves into an association, and to provide adequate funds for offering prizes of some value, in all the schools of their respective neighbourhoods, to children of not less than eleven years of age." This scheme for perpetuating or extending the period of education by means of competitive examinations was soon more widely adopted. The iron and coal masters of North Staffordshire and Shropshire formed similar associations; and those of South Wales followed the example. Since the accession of these districts to the scheme, Mr. Tremenheere has directed his attention to the North Midland and Northern Counties with similar success; and it appears that a system of competitive education, prolonging and extending the operation of the regular schools upon a purely voluntary system—and initiated so lately as the year 1851—has now been adopted in nearly all the mining districts of England.—*Daily News*.

THE FIREWORK EXPLOSION NEAR HUDDERSFIELD.—The man who was injured by the firework explosion at Raschcliffe, near Huddersfield, of which we gave the particulars last week, has died. This makes the second death resulting from the casualty.

THE GREAT GOLD ROBBERY.—William Pierce and James Burgess, the former once a guard, and the latter, till Wednesday night, holding a similar office in the service of the South-Eastern Railway Company, were on Thursday brought before the Lord Mayor, in custody of a detective officer, charged with having been concerned in a robbery of 15,000*l.* worth of gold from a package in its transit from London to Paris in the month of May, 1855. They were remanded.

FIRES.—A fire broke out yesterday morning on the premises of Mr. J. Lampart, jeweller, 36, Church-street, Shoreditch, which has been attended with great loss of property. The premises in question were in the joint occupation of several families, the members of which were sleeping when the constable on duty perceived the indications of fire. Before more than one or two of the inmates could be awakened, the flames had taken possession of the staircase; the rest of the inmates then escaped by the back windows. Several houses were damaged. Another fire occurred at the same time on the premises of Mr. Rushton, licensed victualler, Grove-street, Deptford. The building was nearly burnt down. In both cases insurances had been effected.

PARIS SAVINGS BANK.—The sums paid into the Paris Savings Bank last week amounted to 399,528*fr.* from 4124 depositors, of whom 497 were new, and the reimbursements to 469,016*fr.*

ROBBERY BY BANDIT.—The *Presse d'Orient* of Constantinople gives an account of a horrible crime, similar to those of the *chaffeurs* which caused such terror in France in 1793:—"Four bandits wearing masks entered on the 17th ult. the house of M. Nonna, of the village of St. Georges, near Sulina, and, seizing his wife, who was alone in the house at the time, summoned her to say where her husband, who was supposed to be rich, kept his money concealed. The poor woman solemnly declared that he had no money secreted; but they, not believing her, bound her hand and foot, and committed great atrocities on her, amongst other things cutting and hacking her back and the fleshy parts of her person, and applying a lighted candle to her bosom. Whilst they were thus treating the woman, M. Nonna came in, and he was served in the same atrocious manner. At length, finding that their victims could not reveal the existence of any treasure, the fact being that they were by no means so wealthy as had been imagined, the bandits went away, taking a small sum of money which happened to be lying in a drawer. The neighbours having come in found the man and his wife in a deplorable plight, but medical assistance having been promptly procured, it was hoped they would recover. Two men suspected of having formed part of the band were subsequently arrested; one of them is a man of some property in the neighbourhood of Sulina."

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, November 8.

THE FRENCH OFFICIAL PRESS.

THE following article from Friday's *Moniteur* may be taken as an example of the official equivocation constantly practised in Paris. What becomes of the responsibility of the press, in a country in which one ministerial organ is thus inspired to contradict another, so as to keep up a system of universal duplicity and mystification?—

"The *Constitutionnel* of the 5th inst. contains an article upon a point in dispute in external affairs which we should be very sorry to allow the reader to suppose has emanated from the Government. To convene a discussion is not the way to facilitate its solution. England and France, who together carried on the war and concluded peace, and who agree upon all the great questions of the day in Europe, are divided in opinion upon one of a very minor interest (*assez futile*). Will the difference be settled by a preliminary arrangement or by conference? That is the only thing to be decided. But, under all circumstances, we entertain the firm conviction that the difficulty will soon be removed, without running upon the double error of weakening the English alliance and of failing to fulfil engagements contracted."

The article alluded to appeared in the *Constitutionnel* of Wednesday, and had reference to the question at issue between France and England with respect to the new Bessarabian boundary. The article is written with great bitterness, and imputes bad faith and ambitious designs to England.

There are rumours of an approaching change in the French Ministry, owing to the financial embarrassments and the distressed state of the working classes.

SIGNOR MANIN AND MURATISM.

The following letter has been addressed by Signor Manin to the *Unione di Turin*:—

"Paris, Nov. 4.

"Sir,—Your Parisian correspondent has induced me among the partisans of Prince Murat. That statement is incorrect, and I hope you will permit me to rectify it. I rally to the flag of the National Party, whose wish is the independence and unification of Italy. I may accept an advance, though slow, in the way which leads to a final object, until an opportunity be presented of attaining it completely; but, in any case, I disapprove and reject every retrograde or divergent step, and I therefore reject and disapprove the Muratist solution as anti-national. The Muratist solution would not be progress, but retrogression. If, for our misfortune, it succeeded, it would consolidate the Austrian domination in Northern Italy; it would introduce in Naples an indirect foreign dependence; it would probably dismember Sicily, and abandon it to another foreign influence, and it would create a most serious obstacle to future unification. Murat on the throne of Naples could not, even if he wished, establish a national policy, nor a liberal policy. Murat on the throne of Naples would be fatally, and by the inevitable force of circumstances, the rival and the antagonist of the House of Savoy, and necessarily the friend and the ally, secret or avowed, of Austria, the natural enemy of that House."

"He who affirms that Murat, when King of Naples, would give a liberal constitution, form an alliance with Piedmont, and furnish a contingent of troops for the war against Austria, is either a dupe or a deceiver. Such things Murat while a Pretender may promise, but that promise Murat when King would not and could not fulfil."

"Far from me any intention of personal offence. I speak not of the man, whom I do not know. I speak of the situation and its inevitable conditions. I sum up my intimate convictions in these words:—He who is a partizan of Murat is a traitor to Italy.—Accept, &c."

"MANIN."

NAPLES.

A French and an English steamer are cruising off Naples, and have exchanged salutes with the forts. Some of the officers landed, and walked about the city.

SPAIN.

An action for libel is about to be brought by the Narvaez Cabinet against M. Escosura, formerly Minister of the Interior in Spain, but now a contributor to the Paris evening journal the *Presse*.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE SUBSCRIPTION FOR ITALY.—We have delayed our general report on the Subscription for Italy, in order to dispose of a collateral topic connected with the personal history of the movement. "An Investigator" and "W. G." next week.

HISTORY OF THE SARACENS.—Mr. E. A. Freeman writes to assure us that, in his volume on the Saracens, he acknowledges the importance of Erskine's work on the Lives of Timur and his Successors. We have, and did not express, any doubt as to the literary integrity of Mr. Freeman.

The Leader.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1856.

Public Affairs.

There is nothing so revolutionary, because there is nothing so unnatural and convulsive, as the strain to keep things fixed when all the world is by the very law of its creation in eternal progress.—DR. ARNOLD.

OPINION IN FRANCE AND GOVERNMENT IN ENGLAND.

It may enable our readers to appreciate the character of the actual crisis in France if we present the opinions of some distinguished men who, standing aloof from factious intrigues, are nevertheless in a position to reflect faithfully the opinions of the most influential classes. Some men are political by habit; others are quietists by nature, or by necessity. Even these, however, cannot be immune to the political influences at work around them; and the value of their testimony is enhanced if they have been accustomed to avoid illusion, and to judge independently of the hopes and passions which agitate mere party leaders. The evidence is still more worthy of credit, if it be found that the statement of a professed politician is in literal harmony with that of men without any special 'point of view' whatever. We propose to reproduce some of these reflections, without comment or modification.

To Frenchmen of the calmest views, then, the actual 'situation' in Paris appears to be this:—Public affairs in a detestable condition; Public opinion in a state of profound irritation and anxiety.

As to public affairs, there is a financial crisis, a commercial crisis, a crisis in the provision market. Money is perpetually flowing to the Bourse, there to be swallowed up in a vortex of speculation, which is excited by stimulants of the most artificial and unhealthy character. Great schemes are set afloat without the ballast of a centime of real capital. On the other hand, the tide of pauperism rises, especially in the southern departments, and the approach of winter aggravates the disquietude of the public mind. Never, during the past five years, have so many menacing omens multiplied upon the horizon. Throughout France the working classes are enduring extraordinary privations, particularly in the capital, where, in addition to the ordinary sources of discontent, the difficulty of obtaining lodgings has become a formidable public question. The *Ateneus* of our age has demolished almost every neighbourhood in which the *ouvrier* was accustomed to live in comfort at a low rent, at a convenient distance from his workshop. He is therefore driven to the extremities of Paris, and to the banlieue, but here he is confronted by competing crowds from the provinces in search of an Imperial employer. The workmen of France have been engaged for three or four years in destroying their own habitations. Rents, therefore, have been raised to an enormous average. On the 8th of last month—the quarter day of the faubourgs—vast trains of carts arrived at the Préfecture of Police, laden with the property of the houseless, who had come to petition

the Government for that shelter which they had sought in vain elsewhere. The Government, endeavouring to atone for a desperate policy by a desperate benevolence, undertook to pay the rents of the most necessitous. In one day thirty landlords received their arrears from the Mairie of Belleville. No doubt the workmen relieved were contented; but what of the next settling day? and what of the workmen who are not relieved? It may be imagined how futile is this infinitesimal remedy applied to a universal evil, this drop of consolation in an ocean of misery.

France—Paris especially—is afflicted. But *le Roi s'amuse*. Gloom, and doubt, and suffering, oppress the public mind, but it is the carnival of the Empire. After Plombières Biarritz, after Biarritz Compiègne, after Compiègne Fontainebleau. There is a masquerade in the forest, and the Imperial pleasure-seekers are chasing the deer with hound and horn, in the costume of Louis XIV., powder, plaited wigs, silken breeches, and soft morocco boots. The Duke of MALAKHOFF capers in that degrading frippery by the side of BOSQUET and CANROBERT. "Their hair is white, but not with years," but with the powder of the seventeenth century. Two years ago, these fantastic indecencies would have passed unnoticed; in the midst of poverty and discontent they excite something more than shame. The Emperor, lord of the Allegro at Compiègne, finds leisure, it is remarked, for these ridiculous rehearsals, while Frenchmen shrug their shoulders, and give indirect utterance to their indignation. The change that has come over public opinion is so remarkable that the least clear-sighted—the friends not less than the antagonists of the Empire—discern it. Never has disaffection been more widely spread, never has it been more openly expressed. The universal conviction is—that things as they are cannot last. This conviction, pervading all classes—the interested and the indifferent, spectators and politicians—finds utterance in a hundred forms. It is the future contemplated by those who, we repeat, are least addicted to illusion. It is the future pointed at by men who, on the morrow of the *coup d'état*, declared that the Empire would not be speedily overthrown, but would run its course.

The article in the *Moniteur*, published in the midst of so much dissatisfaction and so much irony, has produced an effect which cannot but be disastrous to the Empire. It has led to a general belief in the existence of serious differences between the Allied Governments; it has proved that LOUIS NAPOLEON is no longer the client of the English press, and the rumour has floated about more persistently than ever that the Emperor is mad. He is not mad; but he is incapable of understanding his position. The disease of his mind is vanity. The attack on the English journals came from him, and we have the best warrant for saying that, when it appeared, a numerous class of Frenchmen began to believe that the star of the Emperor was on the wane.

Parallel with these French accounts, we have another, describing France as upon the declivity of a commercial crisis which threatens to spread through Europe. Public securities are daily depreciated; the market is gorged with paper issued under the pretext of restoring commercial confidence. Instead of confidence there is gambling. Every adventurer, intoxicated by the hope of unlimited gain, throws his chance into the thousand lotteries of Paris, all branching from that famous Lottery of the Golden Ingot, which scattered its tickets even under the porches and sacristies of the Holy Church. Two milliards of francs spent on the war, four successive failures of vintages and har-

vests, would have induced a politic government to adopt large measures for the public safety; but the Empire incites the fury of speculation; the state budget is constructed on the principle of forstalling the public resources and leaving the future to chance, yet not even the visible anxieties of the official class prevent his Majesty from amusing himself. This is the burden of the story. All goes merry at Compiègne; all is merrily planned for Fontainebleau. Hunts, balls, banquets, theatricals—the Empire paying what it can, and owing the rest. The real malady of the Emperor is financial.

For, it is a profound truth that revolutions do not repeat themselves. One revolutionary movement is never a copy of the last, nor is it effected by identical processes. The French Emperor can only govern Paris by erecting vast barracks at every commanding point, and connecting them by strategic routes with its cincture of fortifications. But these will not save him. The light will penetrate even through military walls, and the supply of pay and donations will fail. His position is too fictitious to last. France has not descended, intellectually, to a level with her political degradation. LOUIS NAPOLEON may still say—"I am the State;" but he has not extirpated the free thought of the French people—a thought which is treasured up by the noblest citizens, and which will one day be uttered as the signal of national deliverance. The Empire is an accident, not an institution. When it falls, it will be regretted by paid senators, by grand chamberlains, by falconers, and flunkies alone. Such is the Opinion of Paris, if Paris be represented by its men of intellect, and not by the gamblers of the Bourse.

With this failing Government, thus condemned by the opinions of the most moderate and intelligent classes, our own Cabinet is connected by the ties of an official alliance. What, under such circumstances, is the duty of an English minister? To maintain an English policy, consistent with the highest interests of the English nation, or to double and drift with every variation of French diplomacy? LORD PALMERSTON, first the patron of the Empire, then its obsequious agent, and now its jealous partner, is carrying on a game of meddling rivalry abroad. With the several momentous questions pending on the Danube, at Constantinople, at Naples, between Turkey and the Principalities, Russia and England, Austria and Russia, Italy, Austria, and France, is it not a time to regret that we are publicly represented to the world by such a Minister? The man who has sought to abase Parliament at home, who has deceived the liberal party in every country of Europe, who has never been great in policy, but invariably a juggler and a leader of dupes, is entrusted with the task of steering England through the midst of events which tend to a European crisis. The authorities of Manchester would have us glory in a Minister who governs, not by force of intellect, but by the force of corruption.

PALMERSTON IN MANCHESTER.

PALMERSTON is unquestionably the most stupendous man of the day. He, the War Minister, had been threatened with Manchester; he goes down to the centre of manufactures, the head-quarters of the Peace party, and he has a triumphal entry. He has caught the spirit of the place, and next session he can tell those who would not meet him on their own cotton-hill, that he is more member for Manchester than they.

But though neither MR. GIBSON nor MR. BRIGHT was present, MR. BAZLEY was there the representative of both, and consequently of the Manchester opposition. It was in the

Town Hall that the open supporters and covert foes of the Premier, and the policy he is supposed to represent, found themselves face to face. It is in the addresses of the Town Council and the Commercial Association that we have the expression of the views of Manchester on large imperial questions, and a hearty recognition of the presumed merits of Lord PALMERSTON. It is in the address of the Chamber of Commerce that we see traces of the spirit, if not the pen, of COBDEN, BRIGHT, and GIBSON—of the materialists and non-interventionists. In the former addresses Lord PALMERSTON is regarded as the maintainer of British honour, the "foe of oppression in every form;" the "protector of British subjects abroad;" as a Minister who in a time of danger and Aberdeenism was found "possessed of firmness and ability commensurate with the crisis." And Mr. TURNER assured his Lordship that the Manchester men are not wholly devoted to cotton-bags and money-making; but that in a just and necessary war HER MAJESTY would "find no men more determined to support her arms, or to bear without a murmur the burdens of war, than the citizens of Manchester." But in the address of the Chamber of Commerce, the spirit of the Cobdenmen rises up to lecture the Government for its shortcomings, not in upholding the honour of the country, but in not upholding the cotton interest—in not passing the Shipping Dues Bill—in not making India a cotton country. And this negative censure in an address of welcome was capped by a clumsy apology for introducing so much shop talk.

But PALMERSTON always can get the weather-gauge of any assailant. To the War men, he is the War Minister; to the Peace men, he is for continued Peace; to the Free-traders, he is a Free-trader, as "the Exe" witnesseth; to the Chamber of Commerce, he is for "progressive improvement." He let out the secret of his general agency. The English people have what is called "self-government;" and the way to govern them is to find out what they *will* have, and what they will let you take: concede the former, and they will grant the latter, will press it upon you. He told them at Manchester that, if the people do not get what they want, it is their own fault. That is, if they have made up their minds, and will persist enough, MASCARILLE will recognize the 'sense' of their petitions to Parliament. LEIGH HUNT tells somewhere of a man who went about London 'crying' every fish that was in season; yet he had but a little hand-basket hanging on his wrist. Tell him the fish you wanted, and he would get it in a trice, better and cheaper than you could buy it, from the circumjacent fishmongery. PALMERSTON is that fishmonger. We should not wonder if, supposing the people wanted even a Reform Bill, they would find a good specimen in PALMERSTON's basket. But they must call for it, and must call loudly, too.

ROBSON'S TICKET OF LEAVE.

THE picture of ROBSON as he appeared soon after his sentence, with a close-cropped head and prison dress, would have more effect upon the population at large than any verbal report of the trial; but to complete the moral, it should be accompanied by the picture of the same man in full swing as a great gentleman. A pair of pictures of this kind should be hung up in the coffee-rooms and 'private rooms' of those handsome and convenient hotels, where the ROBSONS of our day 'most do congregate.' As to the mere punishment, it is hateful to the individual while he undergoes it; but he is not undergoing it in the previous years. While he has the life he de-

sires, the penalty is too remote, too faint, to have its effect upon him. The very difficulty is to get at such men in the nick of time, to preach the sermon which ROBSON illustrates to the ROBSON before he accumulates its raw material; and we doubt even whether the picture of the two ROBSONS, repeating HOGARTH's moral of the *Rake's Progress*, would make the new ROBSON of the hour pause in his supper, or do anything but quiz the ultimate fate of the fellow who had not been sharp enough to keep a better costume.

Besides, the ROBSON may turn round upon us, and say that he could not accomplish his career without our assistance. Somebody must make his opportunity, and so it was in the present case. ROBSON was first introduced to the Crystal Palace Company as a smart young man, well worth his clerk's salary of one pound a week. The Crystal Palace Company offered double; and soon after he entered the glass house establishment, he was promoted to a better position. At the head of the transfer department was a Mr. FASSON, who "suffered a good deal from ill health," and while enjoying the consideration which his position implied, he "left a great part of the management of the business of his department to the prisoner," said Mr. Serjeant BALLANTINE, "and undoubtedly this afforded to the prisoner the means of committing the frauds that were imputed to him." ROBSON thus found himself early placed in a position of great responsibility, with a salary of 150*l.* a year. He was paid for his smartness; and he used his sharpness against those who paid him so low a salary for doing duties to which a high salary was attached. If there is some degree of laxity here, it appears to us that it does not lie exclusively with ROBSON.

But it requires something more to manufacture a full-grown ROBSON. The plant will only flourish in a certain atmosphere; and, luckily for the species, the atmosphere is as readily found in moral London as it is in New York or Paris. Several gentlemen engage in a joint-stock speculation; it is very desirable to have good commercial data to go upon; but essential to have a plausible project. The inconsiderate public, however, is less influenced by the details of the project, upon which of course it depends, than by the names of the directors and the look of the establishment. Accordingly, the projector tries to get 'eminent' names on the published list of directors; he seeks very handsome apartments as the offices; and equips them splendidly, with good substantial furniture, footmen in official livery, and all that can give to the house an appearance of opulence. In these days, names are easily got; many a company at the East-end, and even at the West-end, has its splendid apartments, its footmen, and that ready command of cash which looks so aristocratic; all at the expense of the doomed original shareholders. Can any ROBSON be ignorant of these facts? He sees around him high or low obtaining money simply by the appearance of having it; he observes that men of his own class, who wear first-rate clothing, who have always got shillings in their pocket for any amount of 'Hansom,' and of gold for any amount of tavern expenses, can get into the society of men who lend their names to directories; and he sees that while they have the opportunity for advancement, they can realize a considerable amount of substantial enjoyment in the process. In fact, "the Idle Apprentice" of this class can often gallop through a career which leaves "the Industrious Apprentice" behind. "The Idle Apprentice" who is lucky, may establish himself in one promotion after another; may pay the debts incurred in one stage by

the profit which he can rake together in the higher stage; and may ultimately be even an honourable director, with his own carriage, his own mansion, and his own debts, all placed on a safe footing, with the possibility of converting the debts into assets by some lucky turn. We could point to more than one man whose name now figures high in lists of directors, whose contribution is believed to be an honour to a charity, whose presence would be hailed with heartfelt delight at a public meeting, but who might at some period of his life have gone into a melancholy siding, such as that in which ROBSON has come to a collision. It all depends upon the degree of cleverness and luck, and perhaps upon the degree of complicity into which higher persons can be drawn. DAVIDSON and GORDON obtained first-rate assistance, even after one of the firm had been distinctly recognized as "a thief." These are considerations which materially abate the moral influence of the pair of pictures. The ROBSON of 1855 was sharp enough to attain the distinguished position that he did, but it was want of sharpness or luck which sent the ROBSON of 1856 into his truly ludicrous position.

And Society draws exactly the same distinction that we have imagined the ROBSON drawing. The whole difference between the venial man and the culpable is, whether or not he has the money in his purse. Anything short of atrocious crime is pardoned to a full purse. A tavern-keeper proceeded against a gentleman this week for 90*l.* as the balance of a tavern bill, incurred apparently during a month or six weeks. The whole transaction is instructive. The tenant pleaded "never indebted, payment, and the fact that the lodging had been let to him for an immoral purpose." This reminds us of the old plea in bar of the action for the broken coal-scuttle,—that it was not broken, had been mended, and had never been borrowed. While courts of law admit pleas which are absolutely incompatible, and which convict each other of being lies, we can scarcely wonder that men out of doors are lax in their moral distinctions. Mr. MEIKLAM had sinned against the landlord of an hotel in Air-street. He was accused of having ladies to sup in his rooms, but that was not the sin; the landlord, indeed, "was not aware of it," except retrospectively. Mr. MEIKLAM was accused of consorting with another gentleman, who came sometimes in a brougham—"St. John's Wood, you know!" But that was not the offence that was unpardonable. The lodger was sometimes tipsy; but landlords forgive that, although they consider it 'mauvais goût.' One lady once came to the gentleman's room, and sent for the gay gentleman; but he was already at the theatre with another lady, and did not feel inclined to return. That, however, was not the unpardonable sin. All went smoothly enough during the first month, while the gentleman paid his bills; his character was gradually seen through when he did not pay his bills. It is the sovereign reigns that make the distinction between the pardonable and the unpardonable! And so it is through all life. The gentleman in question was visited by a lord: ROBSON, no doubt, might also find his lords, or other ornaments; and so long as he could pay for the horses, the dinners, or the other substrata of good society, he would himself be a 'good' sociarian, and would command the respect of most whom he met.

The ROBSON then learns that so long as he can conjure money into his purse, for the moment, the pew opener will bow to him in church, the landlord will welcome him as to a home, the landlord's daughter will wink at the peccadillo, the lord will grace his supper-

table, the merchant will assist him to get over his "difficulties" in connexion with the penal law; but the punishment, the disgrace, the hair-cropping, overtake him when he fails to have the cash in his purse. The devices which bring him to transportation when they fail, will carry him on to the bench of justice when they succeed. Most men will study their morals empirically from the fact, and society may therefore be considered decidedly to make the Robsons whom it worships while they succeed, and kicks when they are down.

We are making a great fuss about the ticket-of-leave man who is abroad seeking whom he may devour; but how much do the unconvicted outnumber the convicted—how much more is the devouring done by the unconvict, whose ticket of leave is, like Robson's, another man's sovereign!

THE NAUGHTY BOARD.

PROBABLY no public body has been subjected to such a rating as that which Sir BENJAMIN HALL administered to the youngest of the British municipalities, the Metropolitan Board of Works, on Wednesday last; but the remonstrance was more completely just in the case of HALL than of CROMWELL. President THWAITES said that, in conformity with the provisions of the Metropolitan Local Management Act, the deputation came for the purpose of submitting to the Minister "Plan B," as that of which the Board approved. In the ordinary course of things, any respectable Board might have anticipated that the Minister would bow, would use some expressions of courtesy towards 'so important a body,' and would promise that he should 'give the subject his best consideration.' Imagine, then, the feelings of a Board, when Sir BENJAMIN demanded an explanation of the whole scheme, 'from beginning to end!' Having had his explanation, he asked something more. How was it that they submitted to him this Plan B, once rejected by the Board for further information, and subsequently rejected under a total condemnation? Why submit to him a plan as complying with the provision of the act which confessedly would admit a reflux of the sewage within the metropolitan boundary, when the act expressly directs that no such reflux will be admissible at all? The Board had no sufficient answer to make to these questions. In fact, the Board has not complied with the act. And it has not complied with common courtesy to the Minister of Public Works; for it has permitted numerous delays to retard its own decision, and has then left the Minister but a few days to determine upon his approval or rejection of the plan.

The next duty was to lay before him the plan for the Covent Garden improvements, with an estimated cost of 45,000*l.*; and here again the Board had to undergo the chastisement of questionings and reminiscences. On the 16th of July the Minister called the attention of the Board to the subject, stating that he should prefer the Board to carry out the works. Eleven days afterwards he had a letter, thanking him for his plan; and then he heard nothing more until the 5th of November! Four months did the Board take to consider its own decision, and then it allowed the Minister ten days to reflect upon it before giving the Parliamentary notices which must appear on the 15th instant! If the Board had declined the duty, it could have been executed by the official department of Public Works. In this case, therefore, the Board is nothing but a hindrance and an obstruction.

There was a third series of inquiries. On the 8th of March last, the Board asked for information as to the funds at its disposal for

the Southwark improvements; and on the 13th Sir BENJAMIN replied that there was nearly 84,000*l.* for making a continuous line of street connecting the bridges. On the 15th of April, the Board asked for plans; on the 17th they were sent. On the 31st of July a letter was despatched from the office of Public Works, putting a specific question; and on the 7th of August, eleven weeks after the question, the Board replied, that the subject was under consideration; having done nothing since! They have not, in fact, yet agreed to a plan,—so President THWAITES admitted; but he promised that the Southwark improvement plan should be laid before Sir BENJAMIN HALL 'as a matter of courtesy.'

As Prince ALBERT said to the Merchant Tailors, representative institutions are on their trial, and the Board certainly has not done much to strengthen confidence in popular representation. It is quite evident that if the Minister had been unobstructed, those improvements which are still 'under consideration,' with very great doubt as to a proper decision at last, would most likely have been begun, and probably on the best available plans. There are several reasons for the unhappy result of this reference to a municipal body. In the first place, the subject is one rather for picked men of high scientific attainments and decided purpose, than for debate by a federation of parishes. In the second place, the subject was not fairly left to the Board by the Legislature. The municipality was only permitted to execute that part for which it was least suited—scientific inquiry. In the third place, the Board itself is an evasion of duty on the part of the Executive and the Legislature. That which was demanded by the circumstances of the day, was an incorporation of the whole metropolis, with the ancient corporation as its nucleus, and with powers to legislate and administer on purely local subjects. If a municipality had been erected, it would have had before it a large amount of real business. Its members would have been engaged in duties sufficient to engross their attention, and to stimulate their faculties; and instead of attempting to justify their existence by a show of talk, they would most likely have taken the natural course of referring this inquiry to a select committee and certain appointed officers. But the Executive and the Legislature shrank from constructing a metropolitan municipality, in the paltry fear lest that body should become so important as to vie with Parliament.

To account for the present absurdity is not to remove it. The fact remains, that the Metropolitan 'Board of Works' is nothing more than a *sounding board*, which prevents the execution of the 'works.' It is a machinery, not for assisting the consideration of the Minister, but for hindering and baffling him with inadmissible propositions and idle discussion. If we desire a municipality for the whole metropolis, the Board does not furnish what we want; if we desire metropolitan improvements to be carried out, the Board is a bad substitute for the City of London, which has promoted improvements, or for a Minister, who could execute them, with the aid of the best scientific advice, on a comprehensive plan, with energy and despatch.

M. MAZZINI AND M. GALLENGA.

THE English public has long been kept systematically in ignorance with respect to the state, the history, the prospects, and the projects of Piedmont. The energy and ingenuity brought into play in order to effect an object apparently so unimportant, suggests that great interests are in reality at stake. A

conspiracy to flatter is as significant as a conspiracy to calumniate. It is a vulgar artifice to draw attention to the pretty ankle on that side of the street to shield from curiosity the lovely face on this.

The truth is, that as long as we believe in the possible triumph of Liberalism in Italy by means of the constitutional Government of Piedmont, we shall not turn for that desired consummation to the democratic party; and until a democratic movement takes place in Italy, there is not much danger to despotism in any part of Europe.

An enumeration of the means and the agents employed in England for the propagation of false notions, and the stimulation of false hopes with respect to Piedmont, would considerably startle the public. They would hear of many fugitives, with the democratic stigma upon them, becoming gradually converted to constitutionalism, rising to favour and employment in England, and using their newly-acquired positions in order to influence opinion, and ultimately return, either permanently or as 'distinguished visitors,' to the land whence they fled as exiles. The English governing classes are glad to bring about these conversions and make them profitable, for every foreign Liberal corrupted is a new pledge to the cause of Order—and we know that order, which means the gagging of the press and the destruction of all liberty individual and political, is in high favour at present with all who have any pretensions to statesmanship, or know those that have. You cannot go into a drawing-room without meeting some old lady who deplores the excesses of liberty, and says, "Serve them right," when anything happens to anybody who is no friend to NAPOLEON III.

For the present, however, we have only to notice the close of the career of one of the principal agents employed to spread misstatements in England with respect to Piedmontese affairs—we allude to Signor ANTONIO GALLENGA, otherwise known as LUIGI MARIOTTI. That gentleman has been very active under various signatures in the press in lauding the present Government of Piedmont, and vituperating those who have attempted to enlighten the public. His influence has been very great, because he writes tolerable English for a foreigner, and knows, when necessary, how to assume a candid tone; makes admissions not particularly damaging to his friends; and imitates pretty well the English way of asking for 'a fair construction' when acts are too evidently immoral to be directly defended.

Success, however, seems to have bred audacity. Having published in English a rather clever, though shallow and not amusing history, in which he shows great contempt for old facts and dates—making CROMWELL alive and active, for example, three years after his death—he "reserves the right of translation," and actually brought out an Italian version. This was too much. Criticism, which had spared him until then, came down upon him with a fell swoop. Every line of his chapter on recent events has been analyzed, and found to contain "as many mistakes as words." They call these things *bugie* in Italian: "*Un brano di storia che contiene più bugie che parole*," says Signor FEDERICO CAMPANELLA.

For example, there is in a dozen lines a narrative of the expedition to Savoy, attempted in 1834, under command of RAMORINO. See how it has been analyzed at Turin, not only, be it observed, by the political friends of MAZZINI:—

"A column of a thousand adventurers [230 at most, all noble young patriots] entered Savoy from Carouge [no: from Plan-les-Orates] and marched upon St. Julien [no: exactly in the opposite direction], under command of Mazzini himself and Ramorino [no: of Ramorino,

who refused to act on Mazzini's advice], wandered about Savoy without preconceived plan [no: the plan was definite and preconceived, but circumstances prevented its execution]. They came to Annecy [they did no such thing], and occupied it [never]; and then retreated [worse and worse] and coasted the lake towards Thonon [all wrong]. The proclamations of Mazzini in Italian [no: they were in French] made little impression on the Savoyards," &c. &c.

Most of these errors are those of a man perfectly indifferent to material facts, and only anxious to effect his general purpose, namely, to exhibit MAZZINI in a ludicrous light as the leader of an insurrection, occupying the most important place without resistance, retreating without motive, and addressing the population in a foreign language! The passage becomes cruel and libellous, however, when it comes to talk of the man who has laboured so much in the cause of revolution being startled by shots fired at hazard, seizing his carbine, and suddenly fainting away, to be carried in safety over the frontier. M. GALLENGA, alias MARTOTTI, must have known very well that MAZZINI, instead of fainting, assumed the command of the expedition after RAMORINO had fled, and was one of the last to leave the territory of Savoy.

Another passage in this precious history has led to more serious controversy and a very unexpected result. MAZZINI himself has been brought into the field. M. GALLENGA relates the story of a "young fanatic" who was wandering about Switzerland once, who, moved to enthusiasm by the grief of the mother of RUFFINI, offered to go to Turin and assassinate CHARLES ALBERT in 1833, went there with passports and money from MAZZINI, did not dare to strike the blow, and ultimately disappeared. Those who are behind the scenes already know, though the public may not, that this "young fanatic" was GALLENGA himself; and that it is to him that a recent writer alludes when he says: "An old disciple of MAZZINI, after watching a king for two months, blunderbuss in hand, out of the window of a *mezzanino*, comes before us with an ill grace to curse his master when he has become a deputy, and aspires to be minister of the son of the very man whose death he planned in this unmanly manner!"

Whether Signor GALLENGA ever entertained the ambitious idea here attributed to him we do not know. It is evident he can entertain them no longer. M. MAZZINI has stretched out his strong arm and utterly crushed his detractor. His letter to the *Italia e Popolo* is too long for us to extract at present. In substance it is as follows:—In 1833, after the frightful execution of innocent people in Genoa, Alessandria, and Chambéry, by order of the former Carbonaro, who had deserved a throne by treachery and was determined to keep it by murder, a young man called on MAZZINI at Geneva. He bore a letter from a Signor MELEGARI, then a democrat, now a professor of constitutional law, and a ministerial deputy—of whom we may dispose at once. He recommended his friend with extreme warmth, and said he was firmly resolved to "fulfil one act." Now, the son of the man on whom the act was to be performed being on the throne, said professor writes to the papers, saying, that "whatever may have been the words of his letter," he was completely ignorant of the fatal project entertained. We should like to know the words of the letter: and have no doubt that the King, whose great political characteristic is respect for the father dead, whom he disobeyed and betrayed when living, is equally inquisitive.

However, to return to Signor GALLENGA. He was then a member of Young Italy; and distinctly proposed to go and stab or shoot

CHARLES ALBERT. MAZZINI objected, and heaped up reasons against the act, although he admitted that the ferocious king deserved death. GALLENGA stood firm, showed great enthusiasm, obtained a passport and money, and started. It is a curious circumstance, however, that he at first compared himself to HARMODIUS; and at last remembered that there had been such a person as LORENZINO DI MEDICI. But he started, and went to Turin. Here his movements were interesting, but it would be too long to relate them. The most amusing fact is, that he professed to be unable to obtain any weapon to "fulfil his act" with; and actually sent a person named SCIANDRA all the way to MAZZINI at Geneva to obtain one. SCIANDRA came to the great revolutionist and took, by his permission, a dagger with a handle of lapis lazuli from his table. Times have since changed, for men were actuated by different passions from what they are at present. Our opinions on such attempts are known. It is unnecessary to refer to them. It is sufficient to say that the idea of assassination was suggested by GALLENGA, that the pathetic touch about the mother of RUFFINI is a poetical ornament, and that if "the act" was not fulfilled this arose simply from the want of nerve on the part of the man who had undertaken it.

Of course, if Signor GALLENGA had merely accused himself under the mild alias of "a young fanatic," no one would have cared, but he mixes up the names of other people; and his object evidently is to justify the Piedmontese aristocracy for their aversion to MAZZINI in 1848. In many other ways, also, he endeavours to blacken his old friends; and to exalt the foolish, ignorant, and indolent nobles of Piedmont into political idols. The "Senate," according to him, is an "Assembly of Kings," &c., &c. He has succeeded more, however, by his anonymous than his signed labours, in producing a totally false impression concerning the state of Piedmont; and as, in order to arrive at this result, he has been obliged frequently to resort to calumny, we are not surprised that MAZZINI has at length lost patience. His crushing attack, published at Genoa, in the Mazzinian paper, although impeded in circulation by the unscrupulous agents of the post-office, has produced a tremendous sensation in Piedmont. Signor GALLENGA at once wrote (October 27), praising the "consummate genius," &c., &c., of MAZZINI, expressing his love for him, and declaring that he has written the truth! Observe the character of courtiers and Ministerialists. For two or three days, the partisans of Count CAUVOUR affected to treat the revelations from Genoa with contempt. They counted on a clear denial. For some mysterious reason, M. GALLENGA tells the truth—admits everything said against himself most humbly, and only tries to exculpate his dear friend MELEGARI. Next day, indeed, he writes again, more cautiously, and quibbles on a few points; but still MAZZINI is a great man, and has written what is true—has merely erred from inadvertence in one or two details. Vile human nature! The Ministerialists at once fall away, and the unhappy pamphleteer found himself in the centre of the battle-field, aimed at from all sides. The King falls into ecstasies of indignation at the idea that a man who once planned the assassination of his father should be an important political personage, and should wear on his breast the decoration of St. Maurice and St. Lazarus. The Ministers are shocked—because the culprit has not the courage to deny what is undeniable. Great is the commotion; great the coming and going. Friendly companions suggest at the last moment that GALLENGA may

say or do something clever to maintain his position. Instead of that, he bows to the storm, and sends in his resignation as member of the Chamber, and returns the Cross of St. Maurice and St. Lazarus. Evidently there is a mystery in all this, says the reader. So there is. We know it. To explain it would be to give an interesting episode in the life of M. GALLENGA; but we must not forestall the publication of the letter from Egypt which M. MAZZINI still holds in *terrorem* over his former friend and co-conspirator. Suffice it that the English public is now edified on the value of the information it has so greedily swallowed on the constitutional prospects and wonderful progress of the ambitious little kingdom of Piedmont—as well as on the character of its princes and statesmen. We hope it will profit by the lesson.

A SIMPLE RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

THE accident near Kings Langley has the merit of simplicity. An express train rushed by a danger signal at a speed of nearly sixty miles an hour, and before it was stopped, dashed into a disabled coal train. The collision was mitigated by a reduction of speed; but, as it was, a lord was wounded, an honorable gentleman was bruised, and others, less notable in a "Court Guide," were seriously injured.

Kings Langley is a station on the London and North-Western line, about three miles at the other side of Watford; and beyond Kings Langley the next station is Boxmoor. Between Boxmoor and Kings Langley is a signal hut at a place called Nashmills. Here a man was stationed, whose duty it was, when a train passed, to telegraph forward that the train had passed, and to telegraph backward that "the line was clear." A coal train passed on Monday about four o'clock, and he made both signals. The signal that the line was clear was contradicted before his eyes just as he had made the signal,—for the coal train, after it had gone less than two hundred yards from his hut, was stopped through the loss of a bolt in the engine. An express train from Derby to London now thundered on; it had been late forty minutes at Derby, and the driver was going, it is said, at the rate of sixty miles an hour, to make up for lost time. Passing Boxmoor, the driver saw the signal representing that the line was clear, and rushed on with undiminished speed towards the signal hut at Nashmills. Here the signal-man, who had just signalled, "line clear," put on the danger signal, and ran down the line waving a red flag. "It was broad daylight—about four o'clock in the afternoon—there was no fog, and the danger signal at Nashmills is raised high in the air, and can be seen about eight hundred yards before arriving at it." The driver still rushed on: at length he saw the signal, and tried to stop the train. He checked its speed, but, seeing a collision certain, he and the fireman jumped off without injury. The passengers were wounded and bruised—or two seriously.

The accident clearly shows that the system on this line is defective, and that on this occasion it was not well used. A signal that the line was clear was shown at a time when a coal train was actually in sight of the signal-man, and just as he gave the signal the coal train broke down. Had he waited until he saw the coal train safely out of sight, he should on this occasion have been enabled to telegraph back to Boxmoor that the line was not clear. It will be argued that the duty of the man was simply to telegraph that the train had passed his hut—but if the company

hire a man to watch a line, it ought surely to use his eyes to their full power; he could see forward and backward, as well as right before him, and should not telegraph "line clear" until he saw the line clear.

The driver of the express train is undoubtedly guilty. His instructions are, when he sees a danger signal, to pull up at the station that makes the signal. He could have seen the signal eight hundred yards from the station, and yet his train was only stopped by the collision. The company's instructions presuppose that a driver seeing the signal could pull up at the signal station: either the instructions are founded on error or the driver did not look out for the signal in time. That he was making up for lost time is likely, but on a line where a telegraph system is supposed to secure that no train passes until the line is clear, the driver has no excuse for going beyond his proper speed: he ought to have known that no train could overtake him. The original error that caused loss of time has also to be investigated. As to the driver of the coal train, we find him stopping for an engine bolt, although he knew, or ought to have known, that an express train was behind him. He was slackening his speed when passing the signal hut, and had he then stopped to mend his engine, the express could have been signalled back at Boxmoor. To make a coal train precede an express by a few minutes, seems very bad management, and the culpability of the company is indicated pretty clearly by a reference to *Bradshaw*. The express train was due at Boxmoor at 3.25, and yet ten minutes after that hour this coal train was allowed to creep along! No system of telegraphs can compensate for direct violations of the commonest principles of precaution. In fact, it seems that the company, relying on their new plan of telegraphing back and forward, think they can send any number of trains on the line in time or out of time. The present rule has shown that signals will not avail where the traffic is covetously overcrowded and unscrupulously intermixed.

But 'the system' is clearly in fault. We have express trains going so fast that no danger signal can stop them; and we have signal-men telegraphing that the line is clear before the preceding train is out of sight. Either the instructions of the company are in fault, or the driver and signal-man are guilty of gross neglect. Another question suggests itself: Is there any necessity for trains at forty miles an hour? Could not the journey between London and Derby, even for lords and ladies, be properly done at thirty miles an hour—a pace that would ensure safety? THACKERAY says, not without reason, that "we do not travel now-a-days; we arrive at places;" and RUSKIN, in his late volume, says, that "railway travelling is not travelling at all; it is merely being sent to a place, and very little different from becoming a parcel." We forbear to back Mr. RUSKIN's philosophy against modern progress; but when we find ourselves sent like a parcel (only not "this side up," nor "with care"), and flung against coal trains, we may consider whether such speed as forty miles an hour, with collisions, is not haste rather than despatch. The wear and tear of the rails, and of the rolling stock, is also another consideration which might influence railway proprietors. But why talk of proprietors? They are the shareholders, who, on some of our 'grand' lines, are receiving two per cent. dividend, or none at all, while the managers and secretaries of the rival railways carry on a keen competition, both as to speed and fare—keen enough to keep the company alive and their own salaries going. At Reading, three companies compete for the bodies of the townsmen:

the Great Western, the South Western, and the South Eastern offer, through themselves and their respective allies, to convey the people to London at very cheap rates; and one company comes down to something less than a farthing a mile for second-class passengers! Our 'managers' are rival undertakers; our shareholders are dupes, and our passengers are parcels, sent at forty miles an hour.

THE EARLY CLOSERS.

THE impatient friends of the Early Closing Movement are asking for a parliamentary enactment to prohibit the carrying on of retail trades after eight o'clock in the evening. A strong objection to such a proposal is the impossibility of giving effect to it; but, as its authors are sincere, it is very desirable to divert them from the pursuit of a chimerical scheme, and to engage all the friends of the important reform in question in the support of practical measures. A perusal of the address lately published by the Honorary Secretary of the Early Closing Association, will tend to dispossess their minds of the idea that little progress has been made, and that nothing can be effected with legislative intervention. A large majority of employers, Mr. LILWALL reports, have assented to the principle of Early Closing. Only an inconsiderable minority resist it—a minority limited, in many cases, to one or two persons in each trade throughout an extensive district. Of course, the one argument of the non-content is, that late hours of business are profitable. The objection, that if young men enjoyed additional leisure they would employ it disreputably, is an impertinent pretence, or, at least, could only be sincerely urged by a man 'serenely unconscious that he is a fool.' That children should be overtasked to keep them out of mischief was a pre-railway idea; but that young men and girls should be overworked for the same reason could be maintained by none but a scoffer or a dolt. It is really charitable on the part of the secretary of the association to suppose that controversialists of this class have feelings or senses to which he may successfully appeal. Of course, over-work is demoralizing; of course, the assistant is as likely to profit by reasonable leisure as his employer. If the draper who said, "So intolerable was his condition that he often has wished that death itself would terminate his misery," had been disposed to pass his time disreputably, why he had Sunday for his indulgence, and if he spent that day in 'desecration,' it was, probably, because he spent the other days of the week in servitude. Dr. COPLAND's opinion, that "excessive labour is only another term for sickness, suffering, and death;" and Mr. GRAINGER's opinion, that "nearly three-fourths of the diseases prevalent in the metropolis are traceable to over-work," may be taken as an antidote to the whole mass of prejudice existing in connexion with this subject.

The difficulty is to convince those shopkeepers who say that if they did not keep their shops open others would, and this is the class which solicits an act of Parliament. But the great remedy, in such a case, is in the hands of the public, which might be induced not only to adopt a habit of early purchases, but to discountenance those tradesmen who refuse to allow humanity to have any influence over their business affairs. It is encouraging to learn that so much progress has been made; and it certainly is to be deplored that a minority should stand in the way of a great social reform. But, instead of being driven to the expedient of petitioning the Legislature for a compulsory law, we think the best friends of the movement will go to work with

renewed confidence in the means already at their disposal. They say they have a majority; if they have obtained that without parliamentary help, they may surely hope to prevail with the dissentient minority.

IMPERIAL STOCK-JOBGING.

WE find ourselves often compelled to retrace our steps, and to reproduce our words, in order to establish our relative position towards certain of our contemporaries. Lately, Cayenne, the political penal settlement of the French Imperial Government, was discovered by one or two of our daily contemporaries, who are now beginning to discover the singular and alarming fact, that persons high in the councils of LOUIS NAPOLEON are addicted to stock-jobbing, and are even chargeable with making the policy of France subservient to their operations on the Bourse. The semi-official *Pays* indignantly repudiates the generous equivocation of the *Times* which would sever the responsibility of the Emperor from that of his confidential advisers. Our readers will perceive from the subjoined article, which appeared in our columns on the 9th of June, 1855, that we said then what our contemporaries are saying now. The only difference between the practices of the Imperial intimates in June, 1855, and in November, 1856, is, that in the one case they jobbed the war, and in the other they are jobbing the peace.

IMPERIAL STOCK-JOBGING.

(*The Leader*, June 9, 1855.)

The Paris correspondents of the London press have lately been complaining that certain telegraphic despatches from the Crimea have been kept back, either wholly or in part, for some time after they have been known to have arrived at the Tuileries. The French journalists have also observed the fact; a pardonable reticence has prevented them from commenting upon it. The oddest thing about the matter is, that the despatches in question are precisely those which, when they become public, exercise the liveliest influence upon the Bourse; and, to make the joke perfect, it is generally found, when the news does come out, that some mysterious person or persons have operated upon the market to no inconsiderable extent.

It is perfectly well known that when LOUIS NAPOLEON lived in London, he got his living by doing a little stock-jobbing now and then; and, as he was occasionally able to pick up a crumb of information through his acquaintances there and connexions abroad, he is generally supposed to have made a little money that way. At that time a Corsican was employed by him, and it was in his name that the transactions in Capel-court were carried on.

That Corsican may now be daily seen very busily employed upon the Bourse and the Boulevards.

The taking of Genetchi was announced in London by the Secretary to the Admiralty in time for late editions of the morning papers; but it was very late in the afternoon, and just about the close of the Bourse, that the *agence* Havas was selling the despatch as an important piece of intelligence to the various journals of Paris. So well was this managed, that the *Presses* of that afternoon said not a word about it.

During the whole of that day the transactions upon the Bourse were more than usually brisk.

Any one who walks into the garden of the Tuileries and sees the electric wires diverging from a small cabinet at the northern end towards every point of the horizon (looking like reins by which a single pair of hands may drive the world), will find it difficult to believe that the tenant of that cabinet could have been ignorant of that important piece of news for an hour after its reception in London. What was to prevent him

from receiving it simultaneously with our Secretary to the Admiralty?

This is but one instance out of many; but *ex uno disce—Sébastopol est pris.*

REFORM-BILL RUMOURS.

A NUMBER of rumours are flying about concerning a Reform Bill which Lord PALMERSTON is to introduce next session, and which Lord JOHN RUSSELL will endeavour to set aside in favour of a more popular bill projected by himself. Some of the rumours have come to us neatly finished, with the various schedules alphabetically marked, and Lord JOHN RUSSELL's amendments more plainly set forth than we could hope to find them at Chesham-place. But the story bears very little examination. It is old, and comes of a notorious family. The truth is, that such reports have been among the autumn fruits of ten successive years. We always expect in November to hear of next session's Reform Bill. The war being over, and a new war not yet commenced, the promise is renewed for 1857: but we confess that we feel not in the least degree excited. Lord PALMERSTON does not want Reform; the House of Commons certainly does not want it; we very much doubt whether it is wanted by the constituencies. We must not shut our eyes to the fact that twenty years' possession of the franchise sufficed to render the ten-pound householders a petty political aristocracy, which is not everywhere inclined to lower the qualification and cheapen the privilege. In some localities the electors may be eager for Reform, because, though the Bill of 1832 gave them influence, it did not give them enough; and the power of the territorial aristocracy has a tendency to increase. But if the constituents, as a body, had made up their minds about Reform, and if there were twenty men in the House of Commons really earnest on the subject, we should not have public opinion nibbling at rumour, and political plans the exclusive property of gossips. We, of course, do not abandon the hope of a thorough renovation of Parliament; but whatever may be the views of the Liberal party, no good purpose can be served by concealing the truth that the masses of the nation are indifferent, and that the Reform Bill rumours flit from tongue to tongue without exciting expectation or interest. It is felt that, at present, the work to be done is to be done abroad.

IMPERIAL RESPONSIBILITY.

THE *Pays* has a reply to the suggestion of the *Times* that the Emperor of the French is not to be held responsible for all the proceedings of his Ministers. We call our readers' special attention to these paragraphs from the article:—

"The *Times* insinuates that differences of opinion exist between the Emperor and his Ministers, amounting to a difference of policy, and that the Emperor's views are sometimes misrepresented by the acts of his Cabinet. But can such a proposition be seriously affirmed? Not only does the character of the eminent men, placed by the confidence of the Emperor at the head of public affairs, demonstrate the absurdity of this hypothesis, and place the Ministers of France beyond the reach of the attacks of the *Times*; the simplest knowledge of the mechanism of our institutions would suffice to do so.

"Is it possible any one can persuade himself that a French State functionary could, in these days, entertain a policy different from that of the Emperor, or contradict, by his personal conduct, the wise inspirations of him to whom the entire nation has confided its destinies? Have we fallen again amid the evil days of the parliamentary régime, in which a Minister, resting upon his party and creating a personal majority, might annul the authority of his monarch, and relegate him, an impotent Power, to a throne upon which he might reign without governing?"

The devout imperialism of the *Pays* can hardly be suspected. It writes a literal confirmation of our statement on this subject, published last week.

Open Council.

[IN THIS DEPARTMENT, AS ALL OPINIONS, HOWEVER EXTREME, ARE ALLOWED AN EXPRESSION, THE EDITOR NECESSARILY HOLDS HIMSELF RESPONSIBLE FOR NONE.]

There is no learned man but will confess he hath much profited by reading controversies, his senses awakened, and his judgment sharpened. If, then, it be profitable for him to read, why should it not, at least, be tolerable for his adversary to write?—MILTON.

THE AUSTRIANS IN ITALY.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

SIR,—I have just received from Italy the address of the Provincial Congregation of Brescia to the Austrian Government of Lombardy. The importance of that document makes me hope that you will think it proper to lay before the English public the following translation of it.

I am, Sir, yours truly,
A LOMBARD.

THE PROVINCIAL CONGREGATION OF BRESCIA TO THE GOVERNOR OF LOMBARDY.

Excellency.—Among the original attributions of the Provincial Colleges, one of the most important is the right granted to them to respectfully represent to the sovereign the wishes of the population, and, above all, its most urgent wants, so that, either through the justice or the clemency of the monarch, they shall never bring the subjects to such irretrievable economic disorders as are always productive of public dissatisfaction, of sanitary and social disturbances, as well as of grave transgressions both in the moral and in the political life.

The Municipal Councils, not less than the 334,000 inhabitants of this province, gratefully acknowledge that the importance of those attributions, and the confidence of which the Provincial Congregation is the object, are exclusively intended to promote the intellectual and material development of the represented population.

The undersigned would fail in their duties towards the population, and in their responsibility before his Imperial Majesty, were they not to inform the competent authorities of the actual economic condition of the province: they accordingly beg your Excellency to take into special consideration what they are going to state.

Owing to the great commercial associations established in other countries, to the advantages they derive from the abundance of capital, from the discovery of coal and the improved means of communication, every article of our provincial industry has become unable to withstand the competition of the cheaper manufactures, either foreign or of other parts of the empire. The sources, consequently, of our local industry, consisting in ironworks, arms, paper-mills, leather, wool, thread, and other articles, are nearly dried up. This may easily be argued from the increase of pauperism along the shores of our lakes, and especially in the Sabia and Trompia valleys; and it may also be inferred from the number of unproductive loans weighing on those communities, the interest of which is mostly unpaid since two or three years, nor do they present any prospect of being settled; and it is a fact full of mournful gravity, that more than fifty thousand inhabitants are without any industrial occupation. Nor can we expect much from the rent of woods, which is so much exaggerated in the official estimate that the products are reduced to a rate below the public liabilities; and it may also be added, that, in consequence of the destruction of vines, fuel wood has undergone a general decline in its price.

The silk manufacture, which was the only one remaining and the most productive, has been subjected to an alarming situation, owing to the fact that only 80,000 *pesi* (nearly 13,398 cwt.) of cods have been obtained, instead of the ordinary product of 550,000 *pesi* (nearly 92,000 cwt.).

The owners of the soil, in the impossibility of supporting the usual expenses of agricultural work, are effecting a considerable reduction in the number of hands, and leaving aside any idea of improvement, they are compelled to reduce, also, the necessary outlay of animals, manure, and ordinary works. This sad necessity weighs the more lamentably on those who suffered from the late hailstorm, which, through half of the best territory of the province, destroyed almost all the Indian corn crop and part of that of the wheat.

Nor is it to be supposed that the districts could be able to allay the public misery by the means of new works to employ the poor:

Firstly, Because, to pay their share of the national loan, they are obliged to sell out a part of their public patrimony, the more so as they are still indebted on account of the expenses caused by the cholera of 1855.

Secondly, Because any augmentation of supple-

mentary taxes would be in opposition to the Government despatch of May 30th, 1856.

The public institutions for the support of the destitute are in a distressing financial condition. Commercial people can scarcely afford to meet their private engagements, and the public yearly contribution of 99,000 Austrian livres (3300*l.*). Landowners are obliged to have recourse to a system of unproductive loans to discharge the governmental taxes imposed since 1848, as well as to support the agricultural labourers, especially such as live in the area of 64,548 *jugera* of land where the vines have been withered by the cryptogam plant.

Summing up the foregoing exposition, the Provincial College begs to lay before your Excellency the following comprehensive statements:—

The income of the Province of Brescia is	Aust. liv. 12,240,627 54
Ordinary land and additional taxes	5,010,375 64
District taxes	367,218 84
Trade and art taxes	99,000
Income-tax	101,000
Customs	6,600,000
	12,177,594 48

12,177,594 livres!! That is to say, we pay for public charges *all the product of the province*, as we have included in the above figures the product of the trade, arts, and income-tax, which, although it should be laid on other sources of rent, resolves itself into a land imposition, because it falls on the product of the soil in consequence of the absence of external commerce and industry.

These charges are so excessive, that to speak only of the first district in 1853, upon a sum of 184,000 Austrian livres, an arrear of from 17,000 to 19,000 livres remained unpaid; and in the present year, 1856, 29,000 livres in the taxes of the month of March, and 31,000 livres in those of June; hence there is a great number of land-lots which are about to be sold by auction to the profit of the Government, and the complaints of ruined families are consequently numberless and continuous.

Excellency, it is the first time that the Provincial Congregation of Brescia has had recourse to you, with a hope that it will not be in vain. Our exposition is confirmed by the joint support of the municipality, to which we have also added similar petitions from the inhabitants of the districts of San Bartolomeo, Rezzato, Bovezzo, and Calcinato.

The only thing we ask for is, that, through the powerful intercession of your Excellency, the contributions may be put in harmony with the rent, before the capital, already so impoverished, of this province be altogether annihilated.

(Signed) CAVALIER PORCELLI, Relator.

THE MOON'S ROTATION.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

SIR,—I would, with your permission, ask your correspondent on the Moon's Rotation, Thomas Best, to make two very simple experiments; I have found them to be very efficacious in enlightening people in his mental condition.

Let him pour some water into a large basin, and, having allowed it to become quite motionless, carefully place in the middle of it a piece of straw three or four inches long. Then, having taken hold of the basin with both hands, let him turn smoothly round on his heels once. The straw will seem to turn round; that is, the water will have an apparent rotatory motion. Let him put the basin gently down again, he will find this motion to have been only apparent; the straw will be as motionless as it was before he lifted the basin, that is, the water in which it is placed will have no rotatory motion.

The reason of this phenomenon is, that in performing the above experiment a compound motion is communicated to the basin, a part only of which it transmits to the water. The basin not only moves round the experimenter, it also turns round on its own centre, and has a rotatory motion. The water moves round the experimenter, but in rotation to its own centre remains at rest, has no rotatory motion.

If this be true, it follows that if the water could be made to rotate along with the basin, the straw would appear to be motionless.

Let Thomas Best, then (having first removed the straw) cause the water to whirl round in the basin, say by stirring with his hand, and having allowed the rotatory motion thus communicated to become very slow and smooth, let him carefully replace the straw in the centre of the basin. He will then find that he can, by turning round with the basin in his hands in a direction contrary to that in which the water is revolving, cause the straw to appear at rest, and (as the moon always presents the same face to the earth) to present always the same end to his nose.

I am, &c., &c.,
Edinburgh.

WILLIAM KENWARD.

Literature.

Critics are not the legislators, but the judges and police of literature. They do not make laws—they interpret and try to enforce them.—*Edinburgh Review.*

'EVERY one' has now been to Paris, and is of course familiar with the Bois de Boulogne in its new splendours; but probably that which most arrests the attention is the richness of the equipages, and the costumes of the coquettes; surely the wealth here represented must be enormous? On this subject let us hear a writer in *Blackwood*:—

Though it was the end of February, the sun was shining evidently in total forgetfulness that it was not June. Shining, warming, lighting, extracting such variety of exquisite colour from the thousand splendidly-drest ladies who walked and strolled and lounged about the open alleys in the wood, that it is quite possible he fancied he was bestowing his favours on a prodigious bed of flowers. On the beautiful lake floated gay boats with many-coloured sails, carrying cargoes of bright-hued parasols and radiant bonnets and richest glistening silk. In the road rested or slowly moved forward barouches and britzkas, and chariots and phaetons, all with bright panels and glittering wheels and gorgeous linings, with horses trapt with gold and silver, and reins of spotless white; while behind hung suspended a bunch of peony or tulip six feet high, with immense calves to its legs, and a cocked hat on its head, and sometimes even a velvet-sheathed sword at its side. Then the horsemen—gaiety of apparel is not left entirely to the ladies in France. There were green coats, and blue coats, and olive coats so shiny that they looked like pink, and grey coats so brilliant that they looked like white: and still the cavalcade passed on; and beauties caracolled on long-tailed steeds; and bewiskered men galoped past on strong-legged chargers, and, countless as the combinations in a kaleidoscope, they formed in lines, in squares, in circles; and ever over all shone that cloudless sun, and beside them sparkled that waveless water. And on seeing all that brilliancy, all that show, and all that wealth, I said to old Busby, "Who are all these?—where does all the money come from? There's more appearance of riches here than in Hyde Park in the height of the season." Old Busby will certainly have a concussion of the brain if he shakes his foolish old head with such disdainful jerks much longer. He shook his head as if he had been a mandarin for many years in a grocer's window, and said, "My dear, how you are blind! These are nothing but a set of humbug foreigners; swindlers every man; all adventurers on the Bourse or founders of the *Crédit Mobilier*; lords to-day, beggars to-morrow, and galley-slaves the day after. But what then? the spectacle is the same to us. These same carriages will be here this day week—so will these horses—so will these ladies; but the proprietors, mark you, will be different. That fellow's clerk will succeed to his fraudulent *compagnie* and his britzka, and he himself will be marker at a billiard-table. That other fellow will be shot in a duel by a co-forgery of Government bills, and his Andalusian mare will be ridden here by some gambler whose loaded dice are not yet discovered. But the Bois will be as gay, the lake as charming, and the sun as bright. I have been intimate," said Busby, in a very foreign accent, "with some English squires on their short-legged Suffolk cobs, whose rent-roll would buy the fee simple of all the vagabonds here."

A true picture, and forming the appropriate introduction to an interesting story, called "A Cause worth Trying," in which the writer contrives to excite curiosity, though he has not taken the pains to work out the *dénouement* in a satisfactory manner. How rare it is to meet with a good story! We do not allude to the want of invention displayed in creating new situations—these will always remain rare—but in the want of that invention which supplies all the details, which fills up the outline of an old anecdote, and makes it a new drama. Except poems, nothing is so abundant as stories, nothing so rare as stories that are really good.

In the *Revue de Paris* there is a striking paper by HENRI MARTIN, the historian, on CALVIN, LOYOLA, and RABELAIS, in which is quoted the frank but startling avowal of CALVIN's disciple, THEODORE DE BEZA, that "the liberty of conscience is a diabolical dogma—*libertas conscientie diabolicum dogma*." Frank the avowal is, because, as all history shows, whatever the motto of Protestantism may have been, its practice has considered this liberty of conscience the prompting of Satan whenever liberty happened to issue in the adoption of opinions not held by the denouncing sect; startling the avowal is, because if Protestantism does not protect and encourage perfect liberty of conscience, what is its own *raison d'être*? M. HENRI MARTIN well characterizes the Reformation as enfranchisement of national churches from the yoke of Rome, enfranchisement of particular churches, Christian communities within ill-defined limits, but no enfranchisement of the conscience.

After a period of dulness almost unparalleled, Literature seems, in England at least, to be entering once more into a season of activity, although few books of much promise are announced. In France there is an absolute cessation of literary life, which is almost certain to continue as long as the present ignoble despotism continues. Much as we may deplore the blindness of fear—fear at the bugbear of Socialism so dexterously raised by one party and so foolishly and treacherously stimulated by another—which alone has made France servile, it is a source of great consolation to know that the intelligence of France has not accepted the present régime. Bayonets may rule for a time; but only over an ignorant people. Ideas are more powerful than bayonets, and LOUIS NAPOLEON is at war with ideas.

KATE COVENTRY.

Kate Coventry: an Autobiography. Edited by G. J. Whyte Melville, Author of "Digby Grand."

THERE is something fresh and healthy in all that Colonel Whyte Melville writes, and this *Kate Coventry* is very unlike the mawkish stories which delight the Libraries, and weary all sensible people. It is the autobiography of a fast young lady, and yet is neither vulgar nor insipid. Feminine eyes may detect,

perhaps, the masculine hand throughout this autobiography, but no eyes will detect anything but free, healthy animal spirits. Kate is a dashing girl, fonder of horses than worsted work, but sound in heart and limb; and if she is enthusiastic about riding and hunting, where is the woman who, having once surmounted the timidity of her sex, and made direct acquaintance with pigskin, can speak of these things without enthusiasm? That Kate sometimes outrages the proprieties is very true; mammas will think her 'so bold,' and dyspeptic clergymen unfamiliar with pigskin will shake dolorous heads over her levity; but the majority of Englishmen will admire her 'pluck,' and rejoice in her final happiness.

While the spirited pages of this novel carry us gaily to the end, we are not much troubled by misgivings as to the commonplaceness of most of the incidents and a general defiance of minute probabilities; there is a great deal of true observation in the book, amid much that evidently belongs to the invention of the circulating library. Here is a good hit:—

People may talk about country pleasures and country duties, and all the charms of country life; but it appears to me that a good many things are done under the titles of pleasure and duty, which belong in reality to neither; and that those who live entirely in the country, inflict on themselves a great variety of unnecessary disagreeables, as they lose a great many of its chief delights. Of all receipts for weariness, commend me to a dinner-party of country neighbours by daylight—people who know each other just well enough to have opposite interests and secret jealousies—who arrive ill at ease in their smart dresses, to sit through a protracted meal with hot servants and forced conversation, till one young lady on her promotion being victimized at the pianoforte, enables them to yawn unobserved, and welcome ten o'clock brings round the carriage and tipsy coachman, in order that they may enter on their long, dark, dreary drive home through lanes and by-ways, which is only endurable from the consideration that the annual ordeal has been accomplished, and that they need not do it again till this time next year.

Very well observed also is the wayward recklessness with which Kate teases her cousin—persisting in the very course she knows is making him grieve, and grieving while she persists. Here is an animated description of a hunt:—

"Gone away!" exclaims Squire Haycock, lifting his cap high above his red head; "Yonder he goes! Don't you see him, Miss Coventry, now whisking under the gate?"

"Forward, forward!" hollows Frank, giving vent to his excitement in one of those prolonged screams that proclaim how the astonished sportsman has actually seen the fox with his own eyes. The next instant he is through the hand-gate at the end of the ride, and, rising in his stirrups, with the wicked chesnut held hard by the head, is speeding away over the adjoining pasture, alongside of the two or three couples of leading hounds that have just emerged from the covert. Ah! we are all forgotten now, women, children, everything is lost in that first delirious five minutes when the hounds are really away. Frank was gazing at me a minute ago as if his very life was at my disposal, and now he is speeding away a field ahead of me, and don't care whether I break my neck following him or not. But this is no time for such thoughts as these, the drunken huntsman is sounding his horn in our rear. Will, the whip, cap in hand, is bringing up the body of the pack. Squire Haycock holds the gate open for me to pass, Cousin John goes by me like a flash of lightning; White-Stockings, with a loose rein, submits to be kicked along at any pace I like to ask him; the fence at the end of the field is nothing, I shall go exactly where Frank did; my blood thrills with ecstasy in my veins: moment of moments! I have got a capital start, and we are in for a run.

As I sit here in my arm-chair and dressing-gown, I see the whole panorama of to-day passing once more before my eyes. I see that dark, wet, ploughed field, with the white hounds slipping noiselessly over its furrowed surface. I can almost perceive the fresh wholesome smell of the newly-turned earth. I see the ragged, overgrown, straggling fence at the far end, glistening with morning dew, and green with formidable briars. I see Frank Lovell's chesnut rising at the weakest place, the rider sitting well back, his spurs and stirrup-irons shining in the sun; I see Squire Haycock's square scarlet back, as he diverges to a well-known corner for some friendly egress; I hear Cousin John's voice shouting, "Give him his head, Kate!" As White-Stockings and I rapidly approach the leap, my horse relapses of his own accord into a trot, points his small ears, crashes into the very middle of the fence, and just as I give myself up for lost, makes a second bound that settles me once more in the saddle, and lands gallantly in the adjoining field, Frank looking back over his shoulder in evident anxiety and admiration, whilst John's cheery voice, with its "Bravo, Kate!" rings in my delighted ears. We three are now nearest the hounds, a long strip of rushy meadow-land before us, the pack streaming along the side of a high thick hedge that bounds it on our left; the south wind fans my face and lifts my hair, as I slacken my horse's rein and urge him to his speed. I am alongside of Frank. I could ride anywhere now, or do anything. I pass him with a smile and a jest. I am the foremost with the chase. What is ten years of common life, one's feet upon the fender, compared to five such golden minutes as these?

Criticism, if inclined to be severe, might pick large holes in the book; but its pleasant style disarms criticism. On one point only will we suggest to Colonel Melville the necessity of revision, and that is the somewhat too obtrusive odour of cigars which rises from his pages. Every body smokes, and is always smoking, till the word cigar becomes an impertinence.

POETRY AND POLITICS ON THE DANUBE.

Rouman Anthology; or, Selections of Roman Poetry, Ancient and Modern. Being a Collection of the National Ballads of Moldavia and Wallachia, &c. By the Hon. Henry Stanley.

Hertford: Stephen Austin.

Les Principautés de Moldavie et de Valachie. Par Paul Bataillard. Paris: Amyot.

STEPHEN AUSTIN is an artist. Sadi of Shiraz, that poet of rich fancies, would scarcely recognize his own "Rose Garden" in its illumination of gold and colours, from the press of the Hertford printer. Nor could the Rouman songsters ever have hoped to appear in the West so gorgeously costumed in Turkish and Byzantine decoration as in this volume by Mr. Stanley. Every page is a picture. Between delicate-green covers, on ivory paper, with gilded edges, their verses lie, each in a frame of arabesque beauty, red, blue, green, and gold, with superb initial letters, vignettes, and tail-pieces, and faultless type. Mr. Stanley's publication is thus recommended to notice by its external characteristics. Upon opening its earlier pages the reader may be disconcerted by finding a number of poems in a language probably strange to him; he may take it for barbaric Italian, for some curious dialect of Sicily or Corsica, but there are translations for those who are not Rouman scholars, and for those who are, as well as for those who are not, there is a well-written and informing preface, by Mr. Stanley.

The Wallachians love their country, and, like all patriotic nations, express their love in songs. The Syrian does not turn to his Damascus, the Spaniard to his Seville, with more devotion than the Wallachian to the river that flows by Bucharest. The national minstrels still sing among the Rouman valleys airs and ballads of an untraced age, some of which, from M. Aleksandri's collection, Mr. Stanley has translated. All these roving singers are gipsies; with the language they employ philologists are not yet familiar. Of course, the Slavonian origin attributed to the people has long been set aside by the historical evidence connecting them with the Legionaries of Trajan and Aurelian; and though many Slav words have been undoubtedly introduced, so also have Albanian words, with others of an unknown genealogy. The real Rouman tongue is Latin, the Latin of a province, indeed, yet still allied in genius and structure with the Latin of Cicero and Rome. The deviations from the regular ancient language do not seem to have been accidental, the leading peculiarity consisting in the position of the article, which is placed at the end of the word. "The Latinity of the Rouman is, however," says Mr. Stanley, "sadly disguised under the Cyrillic alphabet, in which it has hitherto been habited. This alphabet was adopted about A.D. 1400, after an attempt by one of the Popes to unite the Roumans to the Catholic Church. The priests then burned the books in the Roman or European letters, and the Russians have opposed all the attempts made latterly to cast off the Slavonic alphabet, by which the Rouman language is enchained and bound to the Slavonic dialects." But the tendency of the Roumans to return to their national alphabet is strong, and will probably be successful, in spite of the hostility alluded to by M. Prosper Mérimée, who observes that the Russians offer the alphabet in the same spirit of kindness that actuates them when they offer their Cossacks and governors to a defenceless people. The great dictionary of the Rouman language, with Latin, Hungarian, and German explanations, printed at Buda in 1825, is in Roman type. It was the work of seven professors, whose labours extended over a period of more than thirty years.

Accordingly, Mr. Stanley also has printed his collection of Rouman ballads in poetry in the ordinary Roman or English character. With the exception of the ballads, which refer at times to remnants of an antique mythology that once reigned along the borders of the Danube, the selections are from the works of living men—Radulesco, Aleksandresco, Aleksandrini, Bolentineanu, Cretzianu, and others. The translations are in a literal form, and include historical and legendary pieces, love-songs, and fables. The square border of ornament is adapted from a rare Byzantine manuscript of the fifth century, the initial letter being taken from a Byzantine work of a somewhat later period. Another border with a circular top is now used, for the first time, in modern book decoration. We should mention that the volume is further illustrated by some gems of engraving from Canaletti, representing views in Venice—among others, the house supposed to have been inhabited by Titian.

Among the translations, the first is the short story of Prince Radu's suit to a young maiden:—

"Come and kiss me, sweet little girl,
And I will give thee a necklace and a robe."
"A necklace or a robe for a kiss
Never at any time, my lord, never have I taken."
"Give me a kiss, proud maiden,
Or I will bind thee to the tail of a flying steed."
"Amidst wild horses thou may'st bind me,
But to thee, my lord, I will not give a kiss."
The horse is led forth; it snorts, it strikes out, it bounds,
"Dear little girl, give me one kiss."
"To this flying steed thou may'st bind me,
But to you, my lord, I will not give a kiss."
Prince Radu thereupon assembles his Court
And joyfully marries the proud maiden.

This is very chastely suggested. In the Venetian Biondinetta's poem, descriptive of her love, she says:—

One day beside the fountain
Titian said to me, softly:
"There is no hand in a condition
To attempt thy portrait,
But I swear, by the superb sun,
If thou wishest it on the spot,
I will make thee immortal,
Attempting only thy shadow."

"Mocenigo the Handsome," and the Doge, also address Biondinetta; but she laughs them away, and answers Titian:—

"There is no portrait more angelic
Than that which shows itself to me
When I look into the fountains."

The Pandour's daughter is an example of the patriotic songs popular in Roumania:—

"Rosy maiden,
Wherefore does the tear-drop
Glisten on thy cheek?
Oh! that with loving lips
I might for once dry it up,
Day and night would I sing of thee."
"O Brave! my country
Is weighed down by a thousand woes;
For this do I sigh.
If thou wouldst give me a kiss,
First break through her chains;
Save my country from the stranger."
"I will not have to do
With a slave, who resigns himself in peace
To humiliations and vexations;
If thou wilt go and fight,
Thou may'st be my brother,
For I am a daughter of heroes."

As a contribution to our knowledge of the neglected Rouman language and literature, this volume does honour to every one concerned in its production—to Mr. Stanley, in the first place, but to Mr. Austin also, who renders a real service to art and scholarship by his polyglot and decorative printing.

From a literary to a political friend of the Rouman race: this is the right moment at which to recommend to the English reader a perusal of M. Bataillard's concise but lucid summary. M. Bataillard is a man of independent views, who has had rare opportunities of studying the politics of the great Danubian valley. He has travelled there, resided there, associated with all classes of the population, familiarized himself with the national opinions, whether expressed in state documents or in peasants' songs, and has written clearly and simply a statement of the whole matter now under discussion in the West. We know that the accuracy of M. Bataillard's explanations has been admitted, where it was most likely to be questioned—in the Principalities themselves. It is, therefore, a welcome book, at a time when Danubian politics contain a problem which, whether intelligible to the public mind or not, must shortly be solved. The Rouman race, which inhabits not Wallachia and Moldavia alone, butessarabia and the Bukovina—formerly Moldavian territories—with portions of the Banat and of Transylvania, and is also scattered over various districts of European Turkey, is, as its name indicates, of Latin origin, kindred to the West by ties of blood and of history. It forms, as it were, a wedge, dividing the Northern and Southern branches of the Slavonian nation, and this circumstance explains the hostility which Russia, while advancing triumphantly in other directions, has invariably encountered in Moldavia and Wallachia. Five millions of Roumans exist in these provinces, ready to form a barrier against the Slavonic forces incessantly preparing for the entire subjugation of Eastern Europe. For this reason, Moldo-Wallachia has been for ages the central point of Russian and Austrian strategy, military and diplomatic, in that part of the world. Russia and Turkey have laboured with equal assiduity, though with different aims, to enfeeble this singularly situated nation, which, after successive conflicts, fifteen centuries in duration, now claims, in 1856, at least a semi-independent existence.

Events have demonstrated that which was well known to politicians before the late war commenced—that the ambition of Austria is not less dangerous to the Ottoman Empire than the ambition of Russia. The position of Russia and Austria, indeed, is one of rivalry, and can only cease to be such when the one power has attained a decisive and recognized preponderance over the other. Within the last year or two the Austrian press has been engaged in disseminating the most extravagant pretensions, on the part of the imperial government, with respect to the territorial line of the Danube. Not only newspapers, but pamphlets, and even large volumes, have set forth, formally, a scheme for Germanizing the Principalities, precisely as Bohemia has been Germanized. This new perspective, opened in the East, has flattered the German mind, and was one of the reasons for the sudden rise of Austrian influence in the Frankfort Confederation. It was an imposing idea—this suggestion of a new Germanic marine to be established on the Black Sea, this annexation of Moldavia and Wallachia to the Rouman provinces already absorbed—Transylvania, the Banat, the Bukovina. It would be little consonant with the policy of Austria to create, by the union of the Principalities, a second Piedmont as her Eastern frontier. Russia acts in the East by three methods—by a propagand, which operates upon the Greek and Slavonian populations; by a diplomatic strategy, which has its centre at Constantinople; and by direct territorial pressure, designed first to neutralize, and then to destroy, the independence of the Principalities. The power of opposition possessed by Austria is worked solely in her own interest, against Russia in a spirit of jealousy, and against the Ottoman Empire and the Moldo-Wallachian provinces in a spirit of faithlessness and rapacity.

The first solution proposed in behalf of Moldavia and Wallachia is that of union, and of complete independence. The question of right can scarcely be raised on the part of Turkey. The Moldo-Wallachian people agreed to admit the exercise of certain prerogatives by the Porte in exchange for protection. For this they paid tribute; for this they offered allegiance; and this they have not enjoyed. Fulfilling their share of the engagement, they have never obtained the guaranteed equivalent, but have been under the necessity of defending themselves, so that the capital article of the contract having been repeatedly broken, the contract itself is void, and the Porte has no legal claim to sovereignty in the Danubian Principalities. M. Bataillard cites an array of historical evidence in support of this conclusion; but the truth lies on the surface of Eastern European history, and calls for no elaborate demonstration.

But, setting aside the idea of a strictly independent Moldo-Wallachian state, the second solution proposed is that of a political union of the provinces subject to a well-defined *suzeraineté* of the Porte—based on the three simple treaties which have regulated all the relations between that Government and the Principalities. The union thus indicated would be in perfect accordance with the spirit of the Organic law, assented to, a quarter of a century since, by Turkey not less than by Russia. It is, moreover, the ardent desire of the Moldo-Wallachians themselves; it is their first historical idea; the central point of every patriotic theory; the inspiration of their national songs and oratory. They look to it as the means and pledge of their regeneration, the only security against the corrupt influences implanted in their local constitutions during the Fanariote rule, and revived in their worst intensity, under the Austrian occupation. For a long period, they have been compelled to maintain two princely courts, two cabinets of salaried ministers, two legislative assemblies, two systems of postal service, two customs establishments, two offices of public account, two supreme courts of justice, and two universities. These duplicate organizations constitute a serious burden on a country in which industry has not been sufficient too rapidly to develop itself. Again, general reforms are scarcely possible in the one province, unless the assent of the other be obtained, and it is a truth known to all practical observers, that if one government, by its conservative instinct, renders amelioration difficult, two governments are

enough to render it impossible. Then, for purposes of military defence, the union of the Principalities is essential, unless the Western Powers desire to leave, on the Ottoman frontier, a door perpetually open to the designs of Austria and Russia.

The Turkish and Austrian cabinets, in "malignant conjunction," to use an astrological phrase, invoke the idea of the integrity of the Ottoman Empire against this plan of union. But the Principalities never have been in the list of conquered territories, forming integral parts of the Ottoman Empire. They are related to the Porte, not by conquest, but by treaties, which they have kept, and which the Porte has broken. Moreover, their union would not endanger a single interest involved in the maintenance of the Turkish power in Eastern Europe, but would rather constitute a new guarantee in favour of that power. A united Moldo-Wallachian state would be a source of security to Turkey; first, as protecting her against invasion; and secondly, as relieving her from the discontent of five millions of a brave people, who have incessantly chafed under her authority; lastly, the Porte has no right to insist that the Rouman race shall suffer itself to be destroyed for the sake of an imperial fiction. It has already been destroyed for all purposes of self-government, say the Austrian pamphleteers. It is corrupt, degenerate, feeble; has lost its aspirations, can never again be exalted to a free political existence. M. Bataillard admits that the privileged classes have been tainted to some extent by Fanariote vice, by venality, by the love of intrigue, by subservience to unpatriotic factions. But he adds an eloquent vindication of the vast majority, which, we think, will satisfy an impartial reader. From the Bosphorus and the Archipelago, he says, to Russia, to Prussia, to the Alps, nearly every small nation has succumbed to some foreign power; but the Moldo-Wallachians never have succumbed, and are now asserting their historical claims in the presence of all Europe. We cannot give too broad an assent to this triumphant parallel, seeing that the inhabitants of the provinces have been laid prostrate two years successively by two military powers, and are now soliciting a settlement of their destinies from a Congress in Paris. But M. Bataillard has argued the whole question in a pointed and generally moderate style, which appeals to the common sense of the reader.

OPINIONS HELD IN THE SIXTEENTH CENTURY.

The Life of Cornelius Agrippa von Nettesheim, Doctor and Knight, commonly known as a Magician. By Henry Morley. 2 vols. Chapman and Hall.

(SECOND NOTICE.)

It is very instructive to look back from time to time, and note, if we can do so without unbecomingly arrogance, the credulities of learned men. In looking, with Mr. Morley's aid, into the opinions put forth by Agrippa, we shall note many curious superstitions which may suggest an important reflection. For example, there is something more than a laugh to be extracted from passages like this:—

Finally, there is a distinction to be made between powers that exist only during the life of the thing operative and those which remain in force after its death. It is only when alive that the Echinus can arrest the course of ships. They say also, that in the colic, if a live duck be applied to the stomach it takes away the pain, and the duck dies. Generally, parts of animals that are used should be taken from the animal while it still lives and is in fullest vigour. The right eye of a serpent being applied relieves watering of the eyes, if the serpent be let go alive, and the tooth of a mole will be a cure for toothache, if it was taken from a living mole who was allowed to run away after the operation. Some properties remain, however, after death, attached to things in which some part of the idea remains. So it is that herbs, when dried, retain their virtue, and the skin of a wolf corrodes the skin of a lamb, and acts upon it not only by contact of substance; for a drum made of the skin of a wolf being beaten will cause that a drum made of a lamb's skin shall not sound.

Or this:—

Then, again, as saith Hermes, there are seven holes in the head of an animal, distributed to the seven planets. Also among the several signs of the Zodiac is each living body parcelled out for government, and there is the same relation between the parts as between signs or planets ruling. The agreement of the triplicity in the case of Pisces and Virgo accounts for the fact that, by putting the feet into hot water, one may sometimes relieve pain in the belly.

Or in the divisions of things according to Zodiacal influences; among which

The baboon, also, is solary, because he barks twelve times a day, that is, every hour, and marks smaller intervals of time in a way that caused his figure to be carved by the Egyptians on their fountains—

a point further enforced by the 'fact' that the common division of time was suggested to man by the habits of this sacred animal, the baboon.

Among lunar animals are such as delight to be in man's company; and the panther, which it is said has a spot upon its shoulder waxing and waning as the moon doth. Cats also are lunar, whose eyes become greater or less according to the course of the moon. Lunar also are amphibious animals, and those which are equivocally generated, as mice sometimes are bred from putrefaction of the earth, wasps are bred of the carcasses of horses, bees of the putrefaction of cows, small flies of sour wine, and beetles of the flesh of asses.

What are we to say to the straight gut administered against the injustice and corruption of princes? or to the great things accomplished "by suffumigations in the air, as the liver of a chameleon, being burnt on the top of the house, doth, as it is manifest, raise showers and lightnings?" or to the fact stated on the authority of Proclus, that a spirit was wont to appear in the form of a lion, but by the setting of a cock before it, it vanished away, because there is a contrariety between a cock and a lion? or this?—

But great, also, is the power of fascination, which comes from the spirit of a witch, by its flow out of the eyes in a pure, lucid, subtle vapour, generated of the purer blood, by the heat of the heart. And as the vapour from clear eyes falling upon eyes that are sound may corrupt them, so may the motions and imaginations of one spirit be poured through the eyes and be the vehiculum of that spirit through the eyes of him that is opposite.

And this?—

If a man have ague, let all the parings of his nails be put into pismires' caves, and they say that that which began to draw the nails first must be taken and bound to the neck, and by this means will the disease be removed. Also they say that a man's

eyes being washed three times with the water wherein he has washed his feet will never be sore. And a little frog climbing up a tree, if any one shall spit in his mouth, and then let him escape, is said to cure the cough.

Laugh at these we must; but let us also extract a lesson from them. Why did men credit such superstitions as these? For the same reason that men credit superstitions—different, indeed, but almost as gross—in our own day, namely, because their minds were not trained to consider the evidence by which assertions could be guaranteed. The child implicitly believes in any explanation that is confidently given of what puzzles him; and men are children in this respect, until they have learned that the value of an explanation wholly depends upon the truth of the inductions which precede it.

Observe in the following example how from the real a transition is made to the fantastic; the two first cases being such as, whether explicable or not, are within the range of vulgar experience, but because they were marvellous they seemed to warrant any other marvel:—

Now the passions produce changes in the body, by way of imitation, as when he who sees another gape, gapes also; and William of Paris knew a man upon whom any purgative draught would take effect at sight. So Cyppus, after he was chosen king of Italy, dwelt for a whole night upon the vivid recollection and enjoyment of a ball-fight, and in the morning was found horned, no otherwise than by the vegetative power being stirred up by a vehement imagination, elevating corniferous humours into his head.

Risum teneatis? The "corniferous humours" may excite your scorn, but do you not believe in "the influence of the imagination" of the mother over her unborn child?

The passions, following the fancy when they are most vehement, can not only change their own body, but can transcend so much as to work also on another body, to produce wonderful impressions on its elements, and remove or communicate disease. So the soul, being strongly elevated, sends forth health or sickness to surrounding objects; and Avicenna believed that with a strong action of the fancy in this manner one might kill a camel. Such is the known action of the parent on the unborn child.

Yes, such is the known action of the parent on the unborn child; this and no other; the one is as absurd as the other; only in our nineteenth century we have ceased to believe in the one, while devoutly believing in the other.

Gladly would we have transferred to our columns the greater part of Mr. Morley's analysis of Agrippa's treatise on "The Pre-eminence of Woman," and some passages we must throw together:—

Even after death nature respects her inherent modesty, for a drowned woman floats on her face, and a drowned man upon his back. The noblest part of a human being is the head; but the man's head is liable to baldness, woman is never seen bald. The man's face is often made so filthy by a most odious beard, and so covered with sordid hairs, that it is scarcely to be distinguished from the face of a wild beast; in women, on the other hand, the face always remains pure and decent. For this reason women were, by the laws of the twelve tables, forbidden to rub their cheeks lest hair should grow and obscure their blushing modesty. But the most evident proof of the innate purity of the female sex is, that a woman having once washed is clean, and if she wash in second water will not soil it; but that a man is never clean, though he should wash in ten successive waters, he will cloud and infect them all. . . .

We have all sinned in Adam, not in Eve; original sin we inherit only from the father of our race. The fruit of the tree of knowledge was forbidden to man only, before woman was made; woman received no injunction, she was created free. She was not blamed, therefore, for eating, but for causing sin in her husband by giving him to eat; and she did that not of her own will, but because the devil tempted her. He chose her as the object of temptation, as St. Bernard says, because he saw with envy that she was the most perfect of creatures. She erred in ignorance because she was deceived; the man sinned knowingly. Therefore our Lord made atonement in the figure of the sex that had sinned, and also for more complete humiliation came in the form of a man, not that of a woman, which is nobler and sublimer. He humbled himself as man, but overcame as the descendant of the woman; for the seed of the woman, it was said, not the seed of man, should bruise the serpent's head. He would not, therefore, be born of a man; woman alone was judged worthy to be the earthly parent of the Deity. Risen again, he appeared first to women. Men forsook him, women never. No persecution, heresy, or error in the Church ever began with the female sex. They were men who betrayed, sold, bought, accused, condemned, mocked, crucified the Lord. Peter denied him, his disciples left him. Women were at the foot of the cross, women were at the sepulchre. Even Pilate's wife, who was a heathen, made more effort to save Jesus than any man among believers. Finally, do not almost all theologians assert that the Church is maintained by the Virgin Mary?

Aristotle may say that of all animals the males are stronger and wiser than the females, but St. Paul writes that weak things have been chosen to confound the strong. Adam was sublimely endowed, but woman humbled him; Samson was strong, but woman made him captive; Lot was chaste, but woman seduced him; David was religious, but woman disturbed his piety; Solomon was wise, but woman deceived him; Job was patient, and was robbed by the devil of fortune and family; ulcerated, grieved, oppressed, nothing provoked him to anger till a woman did it, therein proving herself stronger than the devil.

LITERARY WOMEN.

Were not women now forbidden to be literary, we should at this day have most celebrated women, whose wit would surpass that of men. What is to be said upon this head, when even by nature women seem to be born easily superior to practised students in all faculties? Do not the grammarians entitle themselves masters of right speaking? Yet we learn this far better from our nurses and our mothers than from the grammarians. . . . For that reason Plato and Quintilian so solicitously urged a careful choice of children's nurses, that the children's language might be formed on the best model. Are not the poets in the invention of their whims and fables, the dialecticians in their contentious garrulity, surpassed by women? Was ever orator so good or so successful, that a courtesan could not excel his powers of persuasion? What arithmetician by false calculation would know how to cheat a woman in the payment of a debt? What musician equals her in song and in amenity of voice? Are not philosophers, mathematicians, and astrologers often inferior to country-women in their divinations and predictions, and does not the old nurse very often beat the doctor? Socrates himself, the wisest of men, did not disdain to receive knowledge from Aspasia, nor did Apollo the Theologian despise the teaching of Priscilla.

THE ZOOLOGICAL FEMALE.

The queen of all birds, he says, is the eagle, always of the female sex, for no male eagles have been found. The phoenix is a female always. On the other hand, the most pestilent of serpents, called the basilisk, exists only as a male; it is impossible for it to hatch a female.

THE TRAVELS OF A JEW.

Travels of Rabbi Petachia, of Ratisbon. Translated from the Hebrew by Dr. A. Benisch, with Explanatory Notes by the Translator, and William F. Ainsworth, Trübner.

THE heart of Rabbi Moses Petachia, brother of Yizchak the White, and Nachman the Learned, burned within with him the desire of visiting his brethren of the captivity, scattered over the various districts and through the numerous cities of Western Asia and Southern Europe. Hence he resolved to encounter the perils of far journeyings, and being, if not wealthy, in easy circumstances, he made the necessary preparations.

Rabbi Petachia, the reader ought to know, was born about the middle of the twelfth century at Ratisbon, distinguished, at the time of his birth, for its numerous congregations of wise men, which gained for it the title of the Jewish Athens. In what year he set out upon his travels is unknown; but it must have been before the year 1187, since he describes the Holy Land as being still held by the Crusaders. On his return, he told the marvellous things that he had seen and heard to the groups of faithful and credulous Israelites who gathered around him. Whether, however, he wrote an elaborate account of his travels, an abridgment of which we have before us, or whether he only kept an itinerary, or whether Rabbi Yehoodah the Pious, who was amongst his hearers, obtained possession of his notes, it is difficult to say. From the fragmentary character of this work, and other internal evidence we are led to believe that it is the production of the Rabbi Yehoodah, and not of Petachia himself.

Travellers are privileged to tell strange tales, and the travellers of the middle ages availed themselves abundantly of this privilege. Benjamin of Tudela before him, and Marco Polo after him, saw things, or related that they saw them, which excellently keep in countenance the experiences of the Rabbi Petachia. In fact, the marvellous is never a stumbling-block to his reason. Whatever he sees he believes, whatever he hears he credits. Yet his fondness for the marvellous has its limits. If a miracle is performed it must be wrought by some prophet, or the disciple of a prophet, or he is incredulous. All the wonders he relates to his brethren take place at or near the tombs of the holy men of God, and though not so voluminous in bulk, this work before us savours of the spirit of the *Acta Sanctorum*.

Rabbi Petachia set out on his travels from Prague in Bohemia, journeying to Poland, from Poland to Kieff, in Russia, and from Russia in six days to the River Dnieper. This river he crossed on ten extended horse-hides sewn together—a kind of leathern raft which served the country people for a boat—and thus entered the country of Kedar or Little Tartary, where there were no Jews, only heretics. The inhabitants live in tents, we are told; are far-sighted, recognizing objects not distant less than a day's journey, and have beautiful eyes, because they eat no salt, and feed on fragrant plants. Thence, traversing Togarma or Armenia, our traveller passed through the country of Ararat, and in eight days, which, by-the-by, is impossible, arrived as far as Nisibis, leaving the high mountain of Ararat to the right. In three more days he comes to New Nineveh, which, according to his account, is three days' journey from Old Nineveh. The whole land around this latter city is black like pitch. There is neither herb nor any vegetation whatever. He exclaims that it has shared the fate of Sodom and Gomorrah. However, at New Nineveh his heart is rejoiced, for there he finds more than six thousand Jews ruled over by two princes of the seed of David. Here the Rabbi sees an elephant—for the first time. "It is big," he tells us, "and eats about two waggon loads of straw at once; its mouth is in its breast, and when it wants to eat it protrudes its lip about two cubits, takes up with it the straw, and puts it into its mouth. When the sultan condemns any body to death, they say to the elephant, 'This person is guilty.' It then seizes him with its lip, casts him aloft, and kills him. Whatever a human being performs with his hand it performs with its lip; this is exceedingly strange and marvellous."

At Nineveh the Rabbi embarked on the Tigris, and descending its stream, came to Babel, where was a garden belonging to the head of the academy, in which grew mandrakes having the face of a human being. A few hours more brought him to Bagdad, which was a day's journey from end to end, and three days' journey in circumference. Here no women were to be seen, nor did anybody go into the house of his friend lest he should see the wife of his neighbour. If business calls a person to the house, he knocks with a tin knocker, when the master comes forth and speaks to him. The Jews of Babylon are very learned, and well versed in the Talmud. "There is no one so ignorant in the whole of Babylon, Assyria, Media and Persia, but he knows the twenty-four books, the punctuation, the grammar, the superfluous and omitted letters," &c. Even the daughter of one of the Rabbins was expert in the Scripture and Talmud, and gave instruction to the young men. She, however, was invisible; her words proceeded through a dark window, whilst her disciples stood outside the house listening to catch them.

Many strange anecdotes are told about the tombs of the prophets. The sultan who reigned in the days of Rabbi Shelomoh wished to see the prophet Ezekiel, whose sepulchre was distant a day and a half's journey from Bagdad. The Rabbi objected: "Thou canst not see him, for he is holy, nor must thou uncover his grave." The monarch insisted. "My lord and king," replied Shelomoh, "Baruch ben Neriah, his disciple, is buried near the enclosure of the prophet. If he be thy will, uncover his grave. If thou canst see the servant thou mayst try to see the master." The princes and potentates of the kingdom are assembled and commanded to dig; but whoever touches the grave of Baruch ben Neriah falls down immediately and dies. The Jews are then ordered to dig. After three days' fasting they commence, and are not hurt. The coffin of Baruch is reached, when the sultan exclaims, "It does not become this righteous man to be near Ezekiel. I will transfer his coffin to another locality." When, however, they come to the distance of a mile from the grave of Ezekiel they cannot stir, neither can horse nor mule move the coffin from its place. Then said Rabbi Shelomoh, "Here the righteous man wishes to be buried. And they buried there the coffin, and built a beautiful palace over his grave. This is not the only legend in connexion with the prophet's tomb. Round

the grave of Ezekiel, our traveller tells us, is a wall, a large town, and a large enclosure. Those entering the wicket have ordinarily to crawl on hands and feet; but on the festival of Tabernacles, people from all countries resort thither, when the entrance becomes enlarged by itself, so that they can enter it even on camels. Whoever wishes to go to a distant land deposits his purse, or any valuables, with Ezekiel, and many purses with money lie there rotting, because, observes the Rabbi, they lay there many years, their proprietors probably having been murdered on their journey. From the grave of Ezra a column of fire ascended to the sky, during the eleventh and twelfth hour, and sometimes was seen in the first hour of the night. By its light people could walk three or four passages, that is, from twelve to sixteen miles. However, before setting out for the grave of Ezra, the Rabbi Petachia was shown, at Sushan, the coffin of Daniel. Originally it was buried on one side of the river, and caused great plenty, prosperity, and blessing. But the men on the other side of the river said, "Because the holy man is not buried on our side, therefore is our land not blessed;" and there were constant wars for the possession of the coffin. At last some elders came and the affair was compromised. The coffin was suspended by strong iron chains on high pillars, in the centre of the river, thus the land on either side obtained an equal share of the prophet's blessing. But the marvels end not here. Vessels passing underneath the coffin only proceeded in safety if those in it were pious: if this was not the case they foundered. Moreover, our traveller was assured by the Jews inhabitants of the place, that underneath the coffin there were fish with golden pendants in their ears.

However, we will dwell no longer in these gardens of enchantment, though the Jew has much to tell in the style of Pinto—who may have been his imitator. We must pass by those rich trees whose berries were pure gold, as verified by Rabbi Moses Petachia, brother of Yizchak the White and Nachman the Learned, himself, and forsake those beautiful cities whose gates of brass were so highly polished that the horses, seeing themselves reflected in the panels, refused to approach. We cannot, however, conclude without observing that, stripped of the fabulous and marvellous, the book contains incidental descriptions of manners and customs very interesting, and that the notes by which it is accompanied, and for which we are indebted to the translator and Mr. Ainsworth, are not only useful but amusing.

PUNCH'S POCKET-BOOK FOR 1857.

Punch's Pocket-Book for 1857. Bradbury and Evans. EVERYONE knows what *Punch's Pocket-Book* is. We have only to say, then, that this year it is as usual. The frontispiece concerns hoops, petticoats, and tent-like silks and gauzes, while in the 'miscellaneous department' *Punch* frolics among follies and fashions in great pride, and to the content of the jovial, generous reader.

The Arts.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL NOTES.

THE Italian week at DRURY LANE terminated last Saturday with the performance of *Il Trovatore*, when Madame GRISI was seen for the first time these several years by a London audience in a new part—that of *Leonora*, in which she first appeared at Dublin last season, and which was played here during the summer by Mademoiselle PICCOLLOMINI. *Manrico* was sustained by MARIO; and GRAZIANI, who had been singing on the previous Thursday at Paris, was brought over expressly to sing in the character of the *Count de Luna* on this one night. The success, as a matter of course, was immense; the house was crowded to overflowing, and the audience was as enthusiastic as if the locality had been the bottom of the Haymarket, and the month had been May. A second brief season is advertised to commence next Monday.

The same company gave a concert last Monday evening at EXETER HALL. Besides various Italian airs, MARIO sang HATTON's ballad "Good-bye, sweet-heart," with the English words, which he pronounced with great correctness. GRISI enchanted the audience, not only in conjunction with MARIO, with whom she sang DONIZETTI's duet, "Un tenero core," but also in the air "Tacea la notte," from the *Trovatore*. M. and Madame GASSIER, Herr FORMER, Madame AMADEI, and Messrs. LORINI, ALBICINI, and TENNANT, also contributed to the success of the evening; and between the acts a party of Swedes, just arrived in England, performed a quintet on the Sax brass instruments, to the entire satisfaction of those who heard them.

CHARLES MATHEWS made his first appearance since the death of Madame VESTRIS at DRURY LANE on Monday night, when he played *Marplot* in the *Duty Body*, and one of his favourite burlesque parts in *Cool as a Cucumber*. He was received with a perfect fever of applause, which showed itself in four demands for his appearance before the curtain, with which he complied.—The KEELERS afterwards performed in the farce of *Twice Killed*.

The LYCEUM has made two additions to its stock—one, a revival; the other, a new farce. The revived piece is Mr. WHITEHEAD's two-act drama, *The Cavalier*, in which Mr. DILLON performs the part of Captain Hargreaves, and Mrs. DILLON that of Mrs. Hargreaves. The farce is entitled *Doing the Honours*, and comprises a set of incidents of most preposterous improbability. But it gives an opportunity to Mr. TOOLE to exhibit that genuine faculty for grotesque humour which has earned him a position in the course of a few weeks, and which, on the present occasion, as on one or two others, drew forth the hearty sympathy of the audience.—Mr. DILLON appeared on Wednesday evening in the part of Claude Melnotte, in the *The Lady of Lyons*.

MR. and Mrs. BARNEY WILLIAMS have vanished from the ADELPHI, and the *Green Bushes* supplies the place of the vivacious Irishman and the fascinating "Yankee Girl," whose acting (we speak more especially of the lady) was like a bit of fresh wild nature set blooming in the midst of the faded, made-up, go-light conventionalities of the stage, and kindled us Londoners into enthusiasm by sheer force of truth and novelty. In the cast of the revival, there was something sad in the absence of the well-known voices and looks of Mrs. FITZWILLIAM, Mrs. YATES, and Mr. O. SMITH, two of whom have now departed from all earthly stages; but the gaps were well filled up. After the conclusion of this the most successful of melodramas, a little piece was produced called *A Border Marriage*, which brought forth the united faculties of Mr. LEIGH MURRAY, Mr. WRIGHT, and Miss WYNDHAM, the lady giving especial delight by fighting with

rapier a gentleman whom she has just married according to Scottish fashion. The piece turns upon the entrapping of this gentleman, a cavalier of the time of the Commonwealth, into an unexpected marriage with the lady (a young widow), who is herself equally inveigled by a third party; but fighting speedily leads up to love, and the wounds which the cavalier has received from the fair hands of his opponent are healed by the smiles and tenderness of the charming victor vanquished.

At the CITY OF LONDON THEATRE, Mr. and Miss VANDENHOFF have been performing high class tragedy. Mr. VANDENHOFF, long familiar with the London stage, is here seen on the extreme verge of dramatic civilization, acting in high classic style in the severest of classic dramas (TALFOURD'S *Ion*), and winning attention and interest from the sometime worshippers of the melodramatic. This success, no doubt, is not a little aided by the acting of Miss VANDENHOFF—a lady who unites grace, dignity, and passion, and who has the power of being classical without being frigid—as if an ancient Greek statue should be made to pulse with living blood and veritable human emotion. The *Times* critic appends some interesting remarks on the new development of East-end dramatic tastes. He writes:—

"Let us add that the tragedy has been followed by one of those old-school melodramas on the subject of murder and of wrong accusation which a Londoner of the West-end would declare to be just the thing for his eastern brethren, and that the interest awakened by this humble production has been less than that created by *Ion*. Familiarized as he is with all the ordinary expedients for producing dramatic effect, and taught to regard long-established motives and sentiments from an ironical point of view, it is the western man who easily grows impatient while witnessing a dramatic representation, and who considers the word 'slow' the most damnable of predicates. In the east, the poetical drama is a comparatively fresh phenomenon, and, as its theme is usually one of generally human importance,—or, as the Germans say, *allgemein-menschlich*—it has all the capabilities of awakening sympathy, provided

the only merit does not lie in the diction, and the words serve to convey some really interesting story."

JULIEN—and the fogs—have arrived. Not that we mean to identify, in anything more than contemporaneousness, the harmonious Frenchman and our dull November visitors, those drooping mists that steam up from the Essex marshes and the muddy river; but it so happens that we generally have to make our way to the Promenade Concerts through an atmosphere damaging alike to the stiffness of shirt collars and the curling of mustachios, and at petty warfare with lungs and throat. Wednesday, however, was a fine, though cold, night for M. JULIEN'S first appearance at HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE—for it is in that classical and aristocratic locality that we are this year to enjoy our musical peregrinations. In this favourite resort of fashion did the large crowd, which on Wednesday evening filled every available place, behold the well-known *bâton*, hear many of the familiar airs, and get up the old 'rows' for the delight of inextinguishable 'gendom.' We have not the space to particularize all the performances or performers; but we must find room to note that Miss CATHERINE HAYES appeared for the first time after several years of travel, and was received with a degree of enthusiasm which nearly destroyed her self-command. She sang several ballads and cavatinas, and was loudly and repeatedly applauded.—Between the first and second parts, "God save the Queen" and "Partant pour la Syrie" were sung; and here we must interpose an objection. Why are we to be for ever pelted with the latter air? There was some reason to be alleged for it during the war; but there is now absolutely none. It is not the national air of France in any genuine sense, for it is only recognized by one section of Frenchmen. The French military and quadrille bands are not always thundering "God save the Queen" into the ears of the auditors; they do not even play "Partant" so often as we do, though it is the chosen air of the existing Government. Surely, then, it is time for us to give up what is nothing better than a clap-trap—especially after the recent insult passed upon the English press by the Imperial *Moniteur*.

READING FOR ARTIZANS.

(From the *Times*.)

THE Bishop of Manchester, at the recent opening of the Preston Lyceum, congratulated the meeting on the fact that "in one week the number of books issued from the free library amounted to 1750 volumes, and from the lending library to 1950." Very satisfactory indeed; but his Lordship had a little drawback to make from this announcement. "What were the books selected and circulated?" He thought it only honest to meet that question, though it involved a slight confession, which he proceeded to make with rather a blushing, hesitating candour. "I am willing to admit, nay, more, I am prepared to expect; nay, more"—his Lordship becomes bolder as he approaches the point of announcement—"I am to a certain degree glad to see, because it is a natural, and therefore a healthy system, that the class of general literature is that to which the greatest recourse is had." It is easy to see what "general literature," as distinguished from "history, biography, science, and theology," means; but his Lordship would not use so light a word as the real one. Let all novel-readers know that they are students of "general literature"—that is their designation, and let them thank the Bishop of Manchester for it. But the confession advances in accuracy as it proceeds, and the Bishop actually alludes to "works of fiction." So then the secret is out, that the operatives of Preston like novels a good deal better than "history, biography, theology, and science." And, now that the fact is confessed, his Lordship puts a good face upon it, and says, "Let them read works of fiction, so that they be good works of fiction." He "would not withhold from them the glowing descriptions of Radcliffe," &c.

There is nothing more absurd than the idea current in the middle and upper classes as to the use of reading to the lower classes, and the sort of books they are to read. A great number will be shocked, or at any rate look grave and judicial, on being told that the lower classes read novels; they think that persons of this class ought always to read serious, instructive books, and that they are misapplying their education when they do not. But how do the middle and upper classes themselves employ and apply their education? How much of their time do they spend in reading grave and instructive books? It is notorious—and the more a man sees of society the more he is convinced of it—how very little serious or regular, or what is called 'hard' reading, there is in the world. We except, of course, official persons, who are obliged by their office to read returns, reports, &c. In society generally, what is called hard reading is almost wholly left off in the case of women at the age of seventeen, and in the case of men at the age of twenty-one, after which they would no more think of going through any difficult course of reading on any subject than of going to school again. To do so would be a subversion of the whole existing order of things in their idea. Take any theological party—what an amount of unconscious imposture do they practise on the world at large! You would suppose from the words they threw about that they knew something of what they were talking of. But just try them with one or two questions, and you find that 999 out of 1000 have not even acquired the most preliminary acquaintance with the subject. They have plenty of zeal; but, as for its being "according to knowledge," that is just exactly what it is not. What nonsense, then, to expect that ladies and gentlemen, with all the day to themselves, are to read novels, and that fatigued artizans, who have only an hour at night to themselves, are to study philosophy! Are the poorer classes to do all the work, bodily and intellectual too? Are they to think for the rich, as well as work for them?

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, November 4.

BANKRUPTS.—JAMES WATLING KNIGHTS, Quay-street, Ipswich, corn, coal, and seed merchant and auctioneer—WILLIAM JAMES WHITE, 135, Vauxhall-walk and Putney, late of Prace-street, Paddington, and Goswell-street, Mid-dlesex, baker—JOSEPH JAMES REYNOLDS, 21, Threadneedle-street, City, mining and share broker—JOHN VIGGERS, 14, Eldon-road, Victoria-road, Kensington, 4, Cross-lane, St. Mary-at-hill, Lower Thames-street, City, and 93, High-street, Southwark, wine and spirit merchant—SAMUEL BONE, the elder, Dagenham, Essex, beer-shop keeper—FRANCIS SEAWARD, 2, Abchurch-yard, Abchurch-lane, City, licensed carman and carrier—ROBERT JAMES STIRKOT, Ironbridge, Salop, currier—JOHN DOUGHTY, Castle Donnington, Leicester, builder and auctioneer—STEPHEN GREAVES, Eccleshill, York, cloth manufacturer—SAMUEL BIGGIN, HENRY BIGGIN, and PAUL SMITH, Sheffield, saw manufacturers—SAMUEL BIGGIN, the younger, Sheffield, saw manufacturer—CHARLES HAMMOND THOMPSON, Conis-brook, York, common brewer—HENRY WAIGER, Burnley, Lancashire, timber dealer and sawyer—DAVID IRIE, Belfast and Manchester, manufacturer, merchant, and shipper.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—D. WALKER and SOX, 56, South Bridge-street, Edinburgh, auctioneers and appraisers—MALCOLM MCGREGOR, Milton of Drimnie, Perth, farmer, grazier, and cattle dealer—JOHN CAENDUFF, Edinburgh, tailor and clothier.

Friday, November 7.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—JOHN GREGORY, Manchester, accountant and general agent.

BANKRUPTS.—LOUIS CASTRIGUE, Philpot-lane, City, merchant—EDWARD JOHN HODDER, Birmingham, grocer—THOMAS BRINDLEY, Uttoxeter, Staffordshire, grocer—MORRIS BARNETT, Raunsgate, jeweller—THOMAS THOMAS, Manchester, milliner—WILLIAM TURNER, Finsbury-street, builder—LEVI PEARSON, Rochdale, grocer—THOMAS CONWAY, Mohl, Flintshire, corn dealer—WILLIAM DIXON and GEORGE FIDDLETON, Morley, York, dyers—JAMES WALKER, Arundel, scrivener—JAMES STEVENSON, Wards-worth, brewer—EMERY WALKER, Blomfield-street, Harrow-road, Middlesex, coach builder—CHARLES WILKINS and WILLIAM WILKINS, Chipping Lambourne, Berkshire, builders—WILLIAM JOHN PAPER, Coventry, printer—JAMES WOOD, Wolverhampton, grocer—DAVID BUCKLER, Birmingham, builder—JOSEPH SUCKLING, jr., Birmingham, provision dealer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—FRANCIS GUSTAVUS PAULUS NEISON, Leith, merchant—THOMAS BOYD, Perth, grazier—WILLIAM BOWIE, Falkirk, merchant.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.
COLE.—On the 1st inst., at Bognor, Sussex, the wife of C. J. D. Cole, Esq., H.E.I.C.S., H.M.'s Vice-Consul at Jeddah: a son.
MONCRIEFFE.—On the 3rd inst., at Moncrieffe House, Perthshire, the Lady Louisa Moncrieffe: a son.

MARRIAGES.
BAILEY—WARD.—On the 25th of September, at St. Peter's Church, Colombo, John Bailey, Esq., Assistant Government Agent of Badulla, to Katherine Cecilia Elizabeth, daughter of his Excellency Sir H. G. Ward, K.G.C.M.G., Governor of the Island of Ceylon.
GROOM—REID.—On Tuesday, the 23rd of September, at St. George's Cathedral, by the Right Rev. the Bishop of Madras, William Tate Groom, Esq. 1st Madras Fusiliers, to Helen Maria Isabella, eldest daughter of Lieut.-Colonel F. A. Reid, C.B., Quartermaster-General of the Army.

DEATHS.
COLERIDGE.—On Sunday, the 2nd inst., at Eton, Georgina, the wife of Charles Edward Coleridge, Esq., barrister-at-law, aged 21.
JERVIS.—On the 1st inst., suddenly, at his residence, 47, Eaton-square, the Right Hon. the Lord Chief Justice Jervis.

Commercial Affairs.

London, Friday Evening, November 7, 1856.
THE Consols' monthly settling has taken place, and the demand for stock has been considerable. The public continue to invest, but the protracted meetings of the Bank Directors, the non-arrival of the James Batson, and the probable recommencement of the export of bullion, tend to keep things flat. There are undelivered hints and rumours about the City of certain firms and houses being in difficulties, but as yet no names are mentioned. The article in the *Constitutionnel*, which has been greedily caught up by the Belgian and Continental Russian organs, is supposed to represent the section of Louis Napoleon's ministry that has been acting for Russia, and the arrival of Persigny at Com-

piègne, it is thought by many people, will alter the tone of the Ministerial journals.

The accounts from Paris continue very uncomfortable as regards scarcity of money, dearthness of provisions, and house rent, and there are people who have been residing in Paris who assert that the army is jealous of the Imperial Guard, &c. The Italian question must come to an issue sooner or later. Thus, there are breakers enough ahead to make everybody cautious and anxious for the coming winter. Foreign stocks are very little inquired after. Turkish six per cents. are about 90, and have fluctuated but little during the week. The Four per Cent. guaranteed have been rather more in demand.

Railway shares have been firmly supported, and a considerable advance in price has taken place in the leading lines. Foreign lines are also rather better, particularly the Belgian, and Dutch Rhenish shares. Ceylon remains steady at 1 premium, and the Indian lines without change. Great Western of Canada have experienced a remarkable rise, having been done at 25½; they are now 1½ per share flatter, a reaction having taken place.

Joint-stock Banks, but little doing in them; Bank of Egypt, a trifle better; National Discount, and London Discount Companies are firm. The shares of the once far-famed Australian Agricultural Company have moved a little this week—3½ per share—owing perhaps to a rich discovery of gold in the vicinity of their estates. Peel Rivers have also sympathized with this upward movement.

Mining shares are dull, both British and Foreign. At four o'clock Consols close 92½; 93½; Turkish Four per Cent. 90½; 90½.

Aberdeen, —, —; Caledonian, 54, 50½; Chester and Holyhead, 35, 34; Great Northern, 91, 91; Great North, 92½, 93½; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 115, 117; Great Western, 64½, 65½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 93½, 94½; London and Blackwall, 61, 62; London, Brighton, and South Coast, 106, 108; London and North-Western, 102½, 103½; London and South-Western, 104½, 105½; Midland, 79½, 78½; North-Eastern (Berwick), 80, 81; South-Eastern (Dover), 69½, 70½; Antwerp and Rotterdam, 6½, 7; Dutch Rhenish, 15, 14 pm.; Eastern of France (Paris and Strasbourg), 52½, 53; Great Central of France, 34, 33 pm.; Great Luxembourg, 40, 50; Northern of France, 304, 37; Paris and Lyons, 40½, 50; Royal Danish, x in; Royal Swedish, 1, 1½; Sambre and Meuse, 104, 104.

CORN MARKET.

Mark-lane, Friday, November 7, 1856.
THE supplies of English and Foreign Wheat continue very moderate. The demand on the spot has been languid, and only the best qualities of English are taken at former rates. Foreign is not pressed for sale, and prices remain unaltered. The arrivals at ports of call have not been numerous; the sales made are as follows:—Tanaganor Ghirka, 65s. Hard Taganor, 64s. and 65s. Polish Odessa, with slight warrah, 50s. Galatz, very important report, 40s. Several cargoes of Saidi, both arrived and on passage, have been sold at 51s. for the Continent. Maize is still in demand at full prices.—Galatz arrived has been sold at 36s. and 37s; Odessa, 35s. 6d.; Ibrail, with imperfect report, 34s., all cost, freight, and insurance. Barley, except the finest qualities, meets with less inquiry, and Oats sell slowly at prices hardly equal to those of Monday.

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK.

(CLOSING PRICES.)

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Frid.
Bank Stock	212½	214	214	214	214	216
3 per Cent. Red.	92	92½	92½	92½	91½	91½
3 per Cent. Con. An.	93½	93	93	93	92	92½
Consols for Account	93½	92½	92½	92½	92½	92½
New 3 per Cent. An.	92½	92½	92½	92½	92½	92½
New 2½ per Cents .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Long Ans. 1860 .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
India Stock .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	229½
Ditto Bonds, £1000	4 p	4 p	.....	.....	.....	3 p
Ditto, under £1000	1 p	.....	4 p	.....	.....	4 p
Ex. Bills, £1000	3 p	3 p	.....	2 p	2 d	.....
Ditto, £500	5 p	5 p	1 p	2 d	2 p	.....
Ditto, Small .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

FOREIGN FUNDS.

(LAST OFFICIAL QUOTATION DURING THE WEEK ENDING FRIDAY EVENING.)

Brazilian Bonds	100	Portuguese 4 per Cents. ....	.....
Buenos Ayres 6 p. Cents .....	.....	Russian Bonds, 5 per .....	.....
Chilian 5 per Cents. ....	.....	.....	.....
Chilian 5 per Cents. ....	.....	Russian 4½ per Cents.	96
Dutch 2½ per Cents.	64½	Spanish	41½
Dutch 4 per Cent. Certif.	95½	Spanish Committee Cr. ....	.....
Ecuador Bonds .....	.....	of Coup. not fun.	5½
Mexican Account .....	.....	Turkish 6 per Cents.	90½
Peruvian 4½ per Cents.	77½	Turkish New, 4 ditto	101
Portuguese 3 per Cents.	43½	Venezuela 4½ per Cents. ....	.....

ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE.
 Lessee, Mr. ALFRED WIGAN.
 Monday, and during the week (Thursday excepted),
STAY AT HOME.
 Characters by Messrs. G. Vining, Leslie, G. Murray, White,
 F. Vining, and Addison; Misses Bromley, Herbert, and Mrs.
 Stirling.
MEDEA.
 Mrs. Addison; Jason, Miss Thirwall; Orpheus,
 Miss Maskell; Creusa, Miss Bromley; Medea, Mr. F. Robson.
A CONJUGAL LESSON.
 Mr. Lullaby, Mr. F. Robson; Mrs. Lullaby, Mrs. Stirling.
 On Thursday, no performance, in consequence of a por-
 tion of the Company having the honour of appearing at
 Windsor Castle.
 Commence at Half-past Seven.

DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM,
 4 Coventry-street, Leicester-square. Open (for gen-
 tlemen only) from Ten till Ten, containing upwards of one
 thousand models and preparations, illustrating every part
 of the human frame in health and disease, the race of man,
 &c. Lectures delivered at Twelve, Two, and at Half-
 past Seven, by Dr. G. Sexton, F.R.G.S.; and a new and
 highly-interesting Series of Lectures is now in course of
 delivery by Dr. Kahn, at Four P.M. precisely.—Admis-
 sion, 1s.

HARRINGTON, PARKER, and CO., Wine
 and Spirit Merchants, 54, PAUL MALL, LONDON.
 offer to the public Old and Superior WINES, pure, and of
 the finest quality, at prices not exceeding those charged for
 ordinary Wines.

HARRINGTON, PARKER, and CO. would call special
 attention to their PALE and GOLDEN DINNER SHER-
 RIES, as under: Imperial Pints, 2s. to 3s. per dozen; or
 bottled in Reputed Quarts, 3s. to 4s. per dozen.
 Agents for Allsopp's Pale and India Ale.

SPANISH and WESTPHALIA HAMS, 84d.
 per lb. Good Cheshire Cheese, 54d., 64d., and 74d. per
 lb. Rich Blue Mould Stilton, 8d., 10d., and 12d. per lb.;
 matchless do., 14d. per lb. Osborne's famed best Smoked
 Breakfast Bacon is now in excellent cure. York Hams,
 large and small, in abundance, and Butters in perfection at
 reasonable rates. A saving of 15 per cent. to the purchaser
 of all provisions. Packages gratis.

OSBORNE'S Cheese Warehouse, 30, Ludgate-hill, St.
 Paul's.

SCHWEPPE'S MALVERN SELTZER
WATER. Having leased the Holy Well Spring at
 Malvern, renowned for its purity, J. S. and Co. can now
 produce a SELTZER WATER with all the CHEMICAL and
 MEDICINAL properties which have rendered the Nassau
 Spring so celebrated. They continue Manufacturing SODA,
 MAGNESIA, and POTASS WATERS and LEMONADE, at
 LONDON, LIVERPOOL, BRISTOL, and DERRY.

Every bottle is protected by a Red Label bearing their
 signature.

TO INVALIDS, MOTHERS, and FAMILIES.—By her Majesty's Royal Letters Patent (the
 only patent for these preparations). Strongly recommended
 by the Medical Profession, ADAM'S IMPROVED PAT-
 ENT GRUPEL and BARLEY are manufactured by a pro-
 cess which entirely removes the acidity and unpleasant fla-
 vour, so universally found in similar preparations. They pro-
 duce Gruel and Barley Water in the highest perfection, and,
 being manufactured perfectly pure, yield food of the most
 light and nourishing quality for the Infant, the Invalid, and
 the Aged. The Barley also makes a delicious Custard Pudd-
 ing, and is an excellent ingredient for thickening Soups, &c.
 The Patentes publish one only of the numerous testimo-
 nials they have received from eminent medical professors,
 relying more confidently on the intrinsic quality of the
 articles, of which one trial will not fail to convince the most
 fastidious of their purity and excellence.

(Copy)

"Chemical Laboratory, Guy's Hospital,
 February 19, 1855.

"I have submitted to a microscopical and chemical ex-
 amination the samples of barley and groats which you have
 forwarded to me, and I beg to inform you that I find in
 them only those principles which are found in good barley;
 there is no mineral or other impurity present, and from the
 result of my investigation I believe them to be genuine, and
 to possess those nutritive properties assigned by the late Dr.
 Pereira to this description of food."
 (Signed) "A. S. TAYLOR."

"Messrs. Adam and Co."
CAUTION.—To prevent errors, the Public are requested
 to observe that each package bears the signature of the Pa-
 tentees, J. and J. C. ADAM.

To be obtained Wholesale at the Manufactory, Maiden-
 lane, Queen-street, London; and Retail in Packets and
 Canisters at 6d. and 1s. each, and in Canisters for Families
 at 2s., 5s., and 10s. each, of all respectable Grocers, Druggists,
 &c., in Town and Country.

Under the Patronage of Royalty and the Authority of the
 Faculty.

KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES.—A
 Certain Remedy for Disorders of the Pulmonary
 Organs.—In Difficulty of Breathing—in Redundancy of
 Phlegm—in Incipient Consumption (of which Cough is the
 most positive indication), they are of unerring efficacy. In
 Asthma, and in Winter Cough, they have never been known to
 fail.

Prepared and sold in Boxes, 1s. 14d., and Tins, 2s. 9d.,
 4s. 6d., and 10s. 6d. each, by THOMAS KEATING, Chemist,
 &c., No. 79, St. Paul's-churchyard, London; and retail by
 all Druggists.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.
 AN EXTRAORDINARY CURE OF A SORE NECK.
 —Mr. H. Thimlinson, of Barton-upon-Humber, Yorkshire,
 has informed Professor Holloway that a gentleman per-
 sonally known to him had suffered for a very long time with
 a sore neck, which formed itself into an angry and running
 wound. He had the best medical advice for months, but it
 availed nothing. Finding that the disease increased to an
 alarming extent, he commenced using Holloway's Ointment
 and Pills, which in five weeks effected a perfect cure.

Sold by all Medicine Vendors throughout the world; at
 Professor HOLLOWAY'S Establishments, 244, Strand, Lon-
 don, and 80, Maiden-lane, New York; by Messrs. Con-
 stantinople; A. Guidici, Smyrna; and M. Muir, Malta.

AT MR. MECHE'S ESTABLISHMENTS,
 112, Regent-street, 4, Leadenhall-street, and Crystal
 Palace, are exhibited the finest specimens of British manu-
 factures, in Dressing-cases, Work-boxes, Writing-cases,
 Dressing-bags, and other articles of utility or luxury suitable
 for presentation. A separate department for Papier Maché
 Manufactures, and Lacaille Tables, Table Cutlery, Razors,
 Scissors, Penknives, Strops, Paste, &c. Shipping orders
 executed. Same prices charged at all the Establishments.
 A New Show Room at the Regent-street Establishment
 for the sale of Electro Plate in spoons, forks, and a variety
 of articles.

THE DESIDERATUM.—It is a singular but
 notorious fact, that in this age of competition a gen-
 tlemanly Dress Coat cannot be obtained without paying an
 exorbitant price. The advertiser, bona fide West-end
 Tailors of extensive practice, intend honestly to furnish that
 desideratum, viz., a DRESS or FROCK COAT, possessing that
 fine silky appearance, durability, and superior style so
 peculiar to the high-priced garment worn by the British
 aristocracy, at the very moderate charge of 24 guineas, cash.
 Cash payments and a large trade solely enabling them to
 do it.

GENTLEMEN IN SEARCH of a TAILOR
 are directed to B. BENJAMIN, Merchant Tailor, 74,
 Regent-street.
 The FORTY-SEVEN SHILLING SUITS, made to order,
 from Scotch, Heather, and Cheviot Tweeds, all wool and tho-
 roughly shrunken.

The PELISSIER SACS, 21s., 25s., and 28s.
 The BENJAMIN CLERICAL and PROFESSIONAL
 OVER or UNDER COAT, from 30s. The ALBERT LONG
 FROCK or OVER COAT, from 35s. to 55s. The REVER-
 SIBLE WAISTCOAT, buttoning four different sides, 14s.
 The TWO GUINEA DRESS and FROCK COATS, the
 GUINEA DRESS TROUSERS, and the HALF-GUINEA
 WAISTCOATS.—N.B. A perfect fit guaranteed.

REGISTERED.—The OUDE WRAPPER,
 combining Coat, Cloak, and Sleeved Cape, by B. BEN-
 JAMIN, Merchant Tailor, 74, Regent-street, and Court of
 Inventions, Crystal Palace, ready made or made to order,
 in Autumn Tweeds and Meltons, 25s.; Winter Tweeds,
 Meltons, Pilots, and Witneys, 32s.; double mailed cloths
 and beavers, 42s.

DEAFNESS.—Prize Medals 1851, First class
 1855.—The newly invented ACOUSTIC INSTRU-
 MENTS, to suit every degree of deafness, however extreme,
 can only be obtained of F. C. REIN, sole inventor and maker,
 at his Paradise for the Deaf, 108, Strand, London. Also
 Rein's celebrated Cork Respirators.

FURNISH YOUR HOUSE

WITH THE BEST ARTICLES AT

DEANE'S
IRONMONGERY AND FURNISHING WAREHOUSES.

A Priced Furnishing List sent Post Free.

DEANE, DRAY, & CO., LONDON-BRIDGE.

Established A.D. 1700.

"THE LANCET"
 ON DR. DE JONGH'S
LIGHT BROWN COD LIVER OIL.

The most speedy and effectual remedy for CONSUMPTION, BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA, GOUT, RHEUMATISM, SCIATICA, DIABETES, DISEASES OF THE SKIN, NEURALGIA, RICKETS, INFANTILE WASTING, GENERAL DEBILITY, and all SCROFULOUS AFFECTIONS.

"Dr. DE JONGH gives the preference to the Light-Brown Oil over the Pale Oil, which contains scarcely any volatile fatty acid, a smaller quantity of iodine, phosphoric acid, and the elements of bile, and upon which ingredients the efficacy of Cod Liver Oil, no doubt, partly depends. Some of the deficiencies of the Pale Oil are attributable to the method of its preparation, and especially to its filtration through charcoal. In the preference of the Light-Brown over the Pale Oil we fully concur. We have carefully tested a specimen of Dr. DE JONGH'S Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil. We find it to be genuine, and rich in iodine and the elements of bile."

Sold ONLY in IMPERIAL Half-pints, 2s. 6d.; Pints, 4s. 9d.; Quarts, 9s.; and labeled with Dr. DE JONGH'S Stamp and Signature, WITHOUT WHICH NONE ARE GENUINE, by ANSAR, HARFORD, and CO., sole British Consignees, 77, Strand, London; and by many respectable Chemists and Druggists.

BLAIR'S GOUT and RHEUMATIC PILLS.
 This preparation is one of the benefits which the science of modern chemistry has conferred upon mankind, for, during the first twenty years of the present century, to speak of a cure for the Gout was considered a romance—but now the efficacy and safety of this medicine is so fully demonstrated by unsolicited testimonials from persons in every rank of life, that public opinion proclaims this as one of the most important discoveries of the present age.

Sold by PROUT and HARSANT, 229, Strand, London, and all Medicine Vendors.
 Price 1s. 14d. and 2s. 9d. per box.

FRAMPTON'S PILL OF HEALTH.—The manifold advantages to the heads of families from the possession of a medicine of known efficacy, that may be resorted to with confidence, and used with success in cases of temporary sickness, occurring in families more or less every day, are so obvious to all, that no question can be raised of its importance to every housekeeper in the kingdom.

For females, these Pills are truly excellent, removing all obstructions, the distressing headache so very prevalent with the sex, depression of spirits, dullness of sight, nervous affections, blotches, pimples, and sallowness of the skin, and produce a healthy complexion.

Sold by PROUT and HARSANT, 229, Strand, London, and all Medicine Vendors.

Price 1s. 14d. and 2s. 9d. per box.

RADIATING and REFLECTING STOVE.
 WILLIAM S. BURTON'S new register stove combines completely the well-known principles of both Stephenson's and Sylvester's celebrated patent stoves, while it is equally valuable which are peculiarly its own, and for which a patent has been granted. Its reflecting and radiating powers are perfect, it is very simple, and can be put out of order, consumes but little fuel, is most cheerful and cheerful in use, while its general appearance, so much needed, is most imposing. Prices, complete, 30s. to 100s.; bright, 14s. 6s., and upwards. It may be seen in action in his show-rooms, which contain such an assortment of fenders, stoves, ranges, fire-irons, and general ironmongery, as cannot be approached elsewhere, of workmanship. Bright stoves with bronzed ornaments, and two sets of bars, 4s. 14s. to 13l. 13s.; ditto, with ornate ornaments, and two sets of bars, 5s. 5s. to 22l. 2s. 6d. with standards, 7s. to 5l. 12s.; steel fenders, 2l. 11s.; ditto with rich ornate ornaments, 2l. 12s. to 12l. Fire-irons, from 1s. 9d. the set to 4s. 4s.

BEDSTEADS, REDDING, and FURNITURE.—WILLIAM S. BURTON'S Stock on show of Iron and Brass Bedsteads and Children's Cots, stands unrivalled either for extent, beauty of design, or moderate prices. He also supplies Bedding and Bed-linings of guaranteed quality and workmanship.

Portable Folding Bedsteads, from 12s. 6d.; Patent Iron Bedsteads, fitted with dovetail joints and patent castings, from 15s.; and Cots, from 20s. each. Handsome ornamental Iron and Brass Bedsteads, in great variety, from 21l. 7s. 6d. to 207l.

A Half-Tester Patent Iron Bedstead, three feet wide, with Bedding, &c., complete:

Bedstead	£1 4 6
Chintz furniture	9 14 6
Pallasse, wool mattress, bolster, and pillow	1 11 0
A pair of cotton sheets, three blankets, and a coloured counterpane	1 5 0
	£4 16 6

A double bedstead, same..... 26 3 0

If without Half-Tester and Furniture:

Single bed, complete..... 23 12 0

Double bed, complete..... 43 0 0

LAMPES à MODERATEUR, from 6s. to 7l. 7s.—WILLIAM S. BURTON has collected from the different makers here and in France a variety that defies competition. As many imported from France are inferior in the works, William S. Burton selects at Paris from the best makers only, and he can guarantee each lamp to sell as perfect in all its parts.

His stock comprises also an extensive assortment of SOLAR, CAMPHINE, PALMER'S, and all other LAMPS.

Pure Colza Oil, 4s. 8d. a gallon.
 Patent Camphine, 4s. a gallon.
 Palmer's Candles, 9d. per lb.

The late additions to these extensive premises (already by far the largest in Europe) are of such a character that the entire of EIGHT HOUSES is devoted to the display of the most magnificent stock of GENERAL HOUSE IRONMONGERY (including Cutlery, Nickel Silver, Plated Goods, Baths, Brushes, Turnery, Lamps, Gasaliers, Iron and Brass Bedsteads, Bedding, &c. &c.), a series of sixteen Large Show Rooms as to afford to parties requiring facilities in the selection of goods that cannot be hoped for elsewhere.

Illustrated Catalogues sent (per post) free.
 39, OXFORD-STREET; 1, 1A, 2, and 3, NEWMAR-
 STREET; and 4, 5, and 6, PERRY'S-PLACE, LONDON.
 Established 1820.

WATCH, CLOCK, and CHRONOMETER

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30	1000	25 13 4	8 1 8	17 11 8
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